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Engaged to Understudy Mr Terry,
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MR. A. B. IMESON,
Lead, Compton Comedy Company.
June 6, Dalston Theatre, N. Disengaged June 13.

MR. FRED INWOOD
Disengaged.
Shirley, Coventry-park, Streatham, S.W.

MR. and MRS. FREDERIC JACQUES
(Miss Minnie Rayner), Nathalie and Joly, Mrs Lewis Waller's "Zaza" Co. June 6, T. R., Bournemouth.

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Opera House, Cape Town.

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MR. C. B. KESTON
at Liberty.
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MR. CLAUDE KING
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MR. WINGOLD LAWRENCE,
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AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

NEW YORK, MAY 18.—*A Venetian Romance*, a comedy-opera, in three acts, was recently produced by Mr Frank L. Perley at the Knickerbocker Theatre. The book was written by Mrs Cornelia Osgood Tyler, and the music by Frederick Coit Wight. The story deals with the romance of Antonio Foscori, a poor poet of Palermo, and Nanetta, the beautiful young Marchesi di Santa Molina. The first act shows the Plaza San Remo in Venice at carnival time. The second passes in the Temple of Hymen, in the same city, and the third in a robbers' retreat among the mountains of the Austrian Tyrol. Nanetta's father has betrothed her to the unscrupulous Count Von Hauptman. Antonio has brought with him to Venice his father's signet ring, which is the only means he has of proving his identity and noble birth. He gives the ring for safe keeping to Pietro Palpitini, custodian of the Temple of Hymen, and at the instigation of the Count, Antonio's rival, a noted robber, Murderallo, steals it. Nanetta's duenna, Gulia, is one of the richest women in Venice, and Garibaldi Nervusini, a police official in league with the robber band, wants to marry her. She agrees to wed him if he will find the ring. Then the Count hires the robbers to abduct Nanetta. They are pursued by Antonio, who is taken prisoner, and the robbers are about to dispatch him when Nanetta, disguised as a minstrel, appears on the scene and offers to save his life by marrying the Count. But the unexpected happens, in comic opera style, and Nanetta and Antonio are happily reunited. As a spectacle the piece is a feast for the eye, and the score includes several melodies that prove very pleasing to the ear. The humour of the plot is developed by no less than fourteen comic characters. Chief among these is Mr Joseph Miron, who as Murderallo, the leader of the robbers, made an emphatic hit. Messrs Ignatio Martinetti, Harry M'Donough, and Neil M'Neil, too, were clever in comedy rôles. Miss Mabel Hite as Nerissa did an eccentric dance in the second act which won for her several recalls, and as the duenna, Gulia, Miss Josie Intropidi was amusing. Mr Walter Percival as Antonio and Mr Harry Lane as the Count sang and acted well. Three "widows" known as the "Triplets from Tripoli," who wore gorgeous frocks of red and gold, figured conspicuously and pleasingly in the proceedings. The piece was liberally applauded, and is likely to prove very popular as a summer entertainment.

"YVETTE," a drama in three acts, by Paul Berton, was performed for the first time in America at the Knickerbocker Theatre on Friday, May 13, at a special matinée for the benefit of the Actors' Fund. The English adaptation was made by Mr Cosmo Gordon Lennox. Yvette, a pure-minded, innocent girl, is the daughter of the dissolute Marquise Obardi. Yvette is loved by Jean De Servigny, whose friend, Léon Saval, is ensnared by the Marquise. Saval arouses suspicion in the mind of his friend by declaring that Yvette's innocence is assumed, and that she is really a coquette. Jean makes his love known to Yvette, but tells her that under the circumstances he cannot marry her. Surprised and hurt by his dishonourable proposal, Yvette flees from him and finds her mother with Saval. In the scene that ensues between the mother and daughter Yvette gradually awakens to a full knowledge of her mother's disgraceful life. The unhappy girl thereupon tries to kill herself, but is revived in time, and the chastened Jean offers to marry her. Miss Dorothy Dorr as the Marquise Obardi and Miss Margaret Illington as Yvette carried off the principal honours. Mr Bruce M'Rae was an admirable Jean De Servigny, and Mr Tyrone Power's Léon Saval was an effective portrayal. Other parts were creditably played by Messrs Ralph Delmore, Harry Davenport, Ernest Lambart, Morton Selten, John Barrymore, Arthur Elliott, Robert M'Wade, jun., and Misses Jeffreys Lewis, Rosalind Coghlan, Maude Granger, Kate Pattison Selten, and Hattie Williams.

GUILDHALL STUDENTS' CONCERT.

The concert given by students of the Guildhall School on Wednesday opened with pianoforte solos by Mdlle. Chamisade, played with much taste and refinement by Miss Elsie Church. Mr Charles Martini sang "She alone charmeth my sadness" with fine, full tones and the requisite command of style. An Adagio by Max Bruch for violin gave Mr Edward Morgan an opportunity to display his skill as a violinist. Miss Edith Sawyer was unfortunately not in good voice. Hence her rendering of Sullivan's "St. Agnes Eve" suffered. Wieniawski's Polonaise in D was brilliantly performed by Mr Cazanbon. Miss Johanna Kirk sang Gounod's "Ave Maria" with taste, and was gracefully accompanied with violin obbligata by Mr Cazanbon. The Rhapsodie in B Minor, Op. 79, of Brahms, was neatly played by Mr Massey. Mr Francis Glynn deserved great praise for his graceful rendering of songs by Batten and Defesch. A dance by Miss Margaret Brodie, a pupil of Mr Soutten, reflected the greatest credit on her teacher and herself. Miss Nellie Danford made an ambitious choice in the grand air from Mayerbeer's *Roberto*, but she came out of the ordeal with success. Miss Clapp recited Longfellow's "King Robert of Sicily." Miss Lillian Cooper sang "The Sands of Dee," and Miss Agnes Mallet concluded the concert with a pianoforte solo of Schumann. Mrs Charles P. Smith, as usual, superintended the appearance of the young lady students on the platform with the best results.

PRESENTATION.—On Thursday, May 26, after the curtain had fallen on the performance of *Whitewashing Julia*, at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle, a gathering of the employees took place on the stage for the purpose of making presentations to Mr W. N. Ramsdale, the treasurer of the theatre, and Miss Robson, also employed at the Royal in a responsible position, in view of their approaching marriage. The gifts were varied and handsome in character, and afforded unmistakable and substantial proof of the popularity of the couple with their colleagues. From the ladies of the theatre came a beautiful silver cake-basket, and the cleaners contributed a silver and glass set of dessert dishes. An oak secretaire and desk was tendered by the staff, and from the musical director, Herr Meyer, came a handsome pedestal. In addition, there was also handed over a purse containing close on £100, towards which Mr Robert Arthur had subscribed £50; and contributions were also made by theatre proprietors; friends at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, and other managers of Mr Robert Arthur's theatres. The presentations were made, on behalf of the donors, by Mr F. Teale Lingham, the popular acting-manager of the Royal, who alluded in felicitous terms to the forthcoming event. At the conclusion of Mr Lingham's address, "They are jolly good fellows" was sung with orchestral accompaniment, followed by hearty cheering, after which Mr Ramsdale in a few well-chosen words suitably acknowledged the gifts.

AT the Knighstone Pavilion and Opera House, Weston-super-Mare, the renowned Meister Glee Singers, assisted by Miss Ursula Rae, gave four successful concerts on Monday and Tuesday. The glees were rendered by these artists with all their wonted excellence. Mr Ford Waltham's fine bass voice was heard to advantage in "Chorus, Gentlemen." Mr Alfred Cunningham gained loud applause for his singing of "The Devout Lover," as also did Mr Ager Grover for his rendering of "The Scent of the Mignonette." Miss Ursula Rae's rich soprano voice found plenty of scope in the "Letter Song" (*Rip Van Winkle*), which gained for her prolonged applause.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DAS HEIRATSNEST,"
Comedy, in Three Acts, by Gustav Davis,
Produced at the Schiller Theatre N, May 27.

Von Grodicki	Herr PATEGG
Wranow	Herr ONNO
Von Derfling	Herr PAESCHKE
Stominski	Herr DANEGER
Frau Stominski	Fräulein ERNST
Staff	Fräulein CONRAD
Buschner	Herr DAHLEN
Leonie	Fräulein SCHUBERT
Frida	Fräulein HEINRICH
Bialkowski	Herr HOLTHAUS
Klotilde	Fräulein GRIEBE
Helene	Fräulein MALINGER
Emmy	Fräulein SILTEN
Von Lipowski	Herr ROLAN
Hilda	Fräulein WASA
Frau Kohlbeck	Fräulein WERNER
Stanislaw	Herr SCHMASOW
Kathi	Fräulein FABER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, JUNE 2.—Herr Davis's comedy is not always entertaining; it is even at times tedious and dragging, but there are a few funny scenes at which the audience laughed heartily, and the main idea of the piece is not bad, though not particularly new. The "Heiratsnest" is a little garrison town on the German-Polish frontier. It is such a God-forsaken, deadly dull place that the only diversion possible is getting married. All the officers marry there in their first youth, and a good many amusing episodes are detailed. The new colonel, Von Grodicki, however, breaks the record. He is not only not married—though long past his first youth—but a pronounced womanhater. This causes a perfect revolution in the little town, and every woman, young and old, is bent on converting him. Grodicki comes at last to his senses, falling a victim to the charms of a certain fair widow, Baroness Hilda von Sorna. After some misunderstandings and complications all comes right. It would not be worth detailing all the several incidents in the Colonel's career; one is amusing enough. He goes a-wooing once on behalf of his adjutant—who is compelled to marry in obedience to a wealthy uncle's wishes. The Colonel—a second Miles Standish—does his business so awkwardly that the lady suspects him of making her a proposal on his own account. How he manages to escape from the painful situation would take too long to tell; but, needless to say, he does so, and marries his Hilda in the long run. The cast was not so satisfactory as it might have been; there was a large number of dramatis personæ, and some of the artists were apparently amateurs. Herr Pategg gave an admirable account of the Colonel, and other rôles were excellently sustained by Fräuleins Wasa and Malinger, and Herren Schmasow and Paeschke

HERR AUGUST ENNA has just completed a new lyrical opera, entitled *Heisse Liebe*, of which very good things are reported. It is said to be the best work since the composer's *Cleopatra*. *Heisse Liebe* is to see the first production at the Court Theatre at Weimar, after which it will come on to Berlin for performance at our Royal Opera.

HERR ERNST VON WILDENBRUCH'S historical drama *König Heinrich* was revived at the Berliner Theatre last week with enormous success—that is to say, as far as the title-rôle was concerned. *König Heinrich* is one of the most powerful plays of modern times, perhaps the most powerful this country has produced during the last decade, but it needs acting in proportion. Herr Matkowsky, of the Royal Schauspiel Haus, acted the part of the king, rendering it in the fiery, convincing manner for which this talented and original actor is known. It was an absolutely different conception from that of Herr Sommerstorff, who created the rôle here, and, to my thinking, less masterly, but Herr Matkowsky took the audience by storm, and carried his hearers with him from start to finish. He was applauded to the echo after each act, and frequently by open stage; it was, in one word, a Matkowsky evening. The remaining characters were none of them very adequately rendered, but the mounting was excellent.

"DER JUNGSTE LEUTNANT" is still drawing well at the Berliner, thanks principally to the clever acting and pleasing singing of Frau Annie Dirkens as the "cheeky" boy lieutenant of the title. One evening recently, however, the star being indisposed, Fräulein Else Boetlicher took her place at a few hours' notice, proving herself a first-rate soubrette notwithstanding her youth. Her rendering of the difficult rôle fell scarcely short of that of the more mature and experienced actress; it was a revelation to managers and public alike, and we hope to see more in future of this charming young artiste, who has hitherto only been entrusted with minor parts.

THE Schiller Theatre O. revived George Hirschfeld's four-act comedy *Pauline* last Wednesday. It met with a very cordial reception, and was well acted. The title-rôle was especially well taken by Fräulein Ullerich, the alternate humour and pathos of the sympathetic character—one of the best Hirschfeld has ever conceived—being equally convincingly depicted.

FRAU SACHSE is continuing her trial performances at the Royal Opera, and so favourable is the impression she conveys as an exponent of Wagner that it is highly probably she will be engaged. The part of Erda, in *Siegfried*, was taken by Frau Sachse on Thursday in first-rate style. Her faults are those of youth—of which she is the happy possessor—and will mend; the voice is powerful and melodious, the enunciation distinct, and the acting dramatic; add to this a pleasing personality, and what more can any operagoer desire?

YET another new theatre is announced for opening next year. This one is to be called the Theater an der Spree, the situation being the corner of Friedrich Strasse and Weidendammer Bridge. It will be devoted to the lighter operatic muse, and the owner is Herr Bruck, the present manager of the Orpheum Theatre at Frankfort. At the rate we are going on we shall soon rival London in the number of theatres and places of entertainment.

THE Kaiser accepted the copy of Signor Leoncavallo's opera, *Der Roland von Berlin*, with unusual graciousness. His Majesty told the composer he considered him the greatest lyrical operatic writer in Italy, and promised to attend one or more of the rehearsals of the new work next autumn. No expense will be spared to produce *Roland* in grand style; it will certainly not be the fault of the management if the opera does not succeed. The composition was, so to say, the price of an audience with the Kaiser. On Leoncavallo's desiring to obtain an audience with his Majesty at Kiel some six years ago he was told that the Kaiser would be pleased to receive the composer of *Der Roland von Berlin*. Leoncavallo at once set to work, and after six years the opera is completed.

THERE is no end to the popularity of Gorki's *Nachtasyl* at the Kleines—if "popularity" be the word to use in connection with this most tragic of plays. The fascination it exercises is boundless; it is in the bill no fewer than five times this week. The house is always well filled, despite the warm spring nights, and all other plays must give way to it. *Fräulein Julie* is given on the remaining nights.

THE Tegernsee company at the Herrnfeld Theatre gave a capital performance on Sunday of Ganghofer's volks-play, *Prozesshansel*. It was, on the whole, exceedingly well acted, and met with a hearty reception.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of Brown's Bronchial Troches. People troubled with a hacking cough, a slight cold, or bronchial affections cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious pulmonary and asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government stamp around each box. Sold by Chemists everywhere, 1s. 1½d. per Box.—[ADVT.]

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

LONDON.

MAY 2. *Fatal Fortune*, musical comedy-drama, in five acts, by St. Aubyn Miller (originally produced at the Carlton Theatre, Saltley, March 28, 1903)—Metropole.
" 3. *The Fairy's Dilemma*, domestic pantomime, in two acts, by W. S. Gilbert—Garrick.
" 5. *The Bride and Bridegroom*, comedy, in four acts, by Arthur Law—New.
" 9. *At War with the World*, comedy melodrama, in four acts, by George Lyttleton—Carlton, Greenwich.
" 9. *The New Housemaid*, farcical comedy, in three acts (originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Margate, on Oct. 19, 1893)—Crown Theatre, Peckham.
" 13. *The Money Makers*, farcical comedy, in three acts, by George Rollit—Royalty.
" 14 *The Prince of Pilsen*, musical comedy, in two acts, book by Frank Pixley, music by Gustave Luders (originally produced in America)—Shaftesbury.
" 16. *The Price of Pleasure*, drama, in four acts, by Myles Wallerton and Francis Gilbert (originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Macclesfield, on Aug. 17, 1903)—Metropole, Camberwell.
" 16. *The Triumph of Truth*, drama, in four acts, by A. Amard (originally produced at the Grand Theatre, Walsall, on Jan. 11, 1904)—Dalston Theatre.
" 16. *The Rake's Wife*, play, in four acts, by Helen Wade and Frank Herbert—Crown, Peckham.
" 16. *In*, play in four acts, by R. O. Prowse (produced by the Stage Society)—Court.
" 16. *The Woman from Nowhere*, melodrama, in four acts, by Arthur Shirley—Grand, Islington.
" 16. *Cynthia*, comedy, in three acts by Hubert Henry Davies (originally produced in America)—Wyndham's.
" 18. *Veronique*, comic opera, in three acts, by A. Vanloo and G. Duval, music by André Messager, English version by Henry Hamilton, lyrics by Lilian Eldée and Percy Greenbank—Apollo.
" 18. *The Island of Pharos*, comic opera, in two acts, words by William Caine, music by Osborne Roberts—Chelsea Town Hall.
" 23. *The Master Criminal*, play in four acts by Henry Merriman (originally produced at the Grand Theatre, Margate, on May 16, 1904)—Elephant and Castle.
" 23. *The King's Diamond*, comic opera, in three acts, written by Charles Harbury, music composed by Meredith Ball—County Theatre, Kingston.
" 23. *A Disgrace to Her Sex*, drama, in four acts, by Walter Melville—Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe.
" 25. *Lady Flirt*, comedy, in three acts, adapted from the French comedy *Madame Flirt* (Athénée Theatre, Paris, Dec. 27, 1901), by Paul Gavault and Georges Berr—Haymarket.
" 26. *Hippolytus*, Greek play, by Euripides, translated by Gilbert Murray—Lyric.
" 28. *Who's Who?* farce, in three acts, adapted from the French of Tristan Bernard, by Sidney Dark—Savoy.
" 30. *The Sporting Girl*, musical play, in three acts, by T. Gilbert Perry, music by Alfred Sugden—Grand Theatre, Woolwich.
" 30. *The Bushrangers*, melodrama, of Australian life, in four acts, based on incidents in the life of Ned Kelly, by Bernard Espinasse and Harry Leader—Grand, Islington.
" 31. *Dr. Janet of Harley-street*, play, in four acts, dramatised by S. Creagh Henry from Arabella Kenealy's novel of the same name (for copyright purposes)—Bijou, Bayswater.

PROVINCES.

MAY 2. *Hobbs' Vendetta*, farcical comedy, in three acts, by Bert Danson and George Arthur—Theatre Royal, Worthing.
" 2. *The Voice of the People*, play, in four acts, by Max Goldberg—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
" 4. *As Played Before His Highness*, comedy, in one act, adapted by Alistair N. Taylor from a story in *The Smart Set*—Prince's Theatre, Manchester.
" 7. *The Squire of Little Clodbury*, comedy, in four acts, by Leonard C. White—Stanley Hall, South Norwood.
" 9. *The Showman*, romantic melodrama, in four acts, by Charles Darrell and George Testo Sante—Grand Opera House, Radcliffe, near Manchester.
" 14. *Ygraine*, tragedy, in four acts, by E. Hamilton Moore—Queen's Theatre, Manchester.
" 16. *The Master Criminal*, play, in four acts, by Henry Merriman—Grand Theatre, Margate.
" 16. *The Girl from Corsica*, musical comedy, in two acts, libretto and lyrics by Mark Allerton, music by T. Dickenson—Grand Opera House, Norwich.
" 16. *Where's Uncle?* musical comedy, in three acts, by F. D. Foster, music by Clement Locknane—Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.
" 28. *Old Manchester; or, When James I. was King*, drama, in three acts, by William Wade—Queen's Theatre, Manchester.
" 30. *The Life Beyond*, play, in four acts, by Hugh Montgomery—Gaiety Theatre, Leith.

REVIVALS.

MAY 18 *Timon of Athens*, Shakespeare's play, revived by Mr J. H. Leigh—Court.

BERLIN.

MAY 1. *Wahrheit*, four-act play, by F. O. Bilse—Central.
" 7. *Der Jüngste Leutnant*, musical farce, in three acts, by E. Jacobson—Berliner.
" 10. *Fräulein Julie*, three-act tragedy, by Julius Strindberg—Kleines.
" 10. *Muttersegen*, play, in three acts, by W. Friedrich—Bürgerliches Schauspielhaus.
" 12. *Kam'rad Lehmann*, three-act farce, by MM. Kren and Schönfeld—Belle Alliance.
" 21. *Ein Pittatloser Mensch*, one-act drama, by J. Schaumberger—Lessing.
" 21. *Das Fest auf Sankt Matern*, comedy, in one act, by Ernst Wehlisch—Lessing.
" 21. *Die Lore*, one-act play, by O. E. Hartleben—Lessing.
" 27. *Das Heiratsnest*, three-act comedy, by G. Davis—Schiller.
" 29. *Die Löwenbrant*, farce, in three acts, by M. Schaetzler-Perasine—Bürgerliches Schauspielhaus.

AT the usual weekly meeting of the council, held last Tuesday, Henry J. Corner, Marie Rignold, and Ethel Hollingshead were nominated as candidates for election as members of the Actors' Association. The latest report of the finance and general purposes committee was received and several matters were referred to them for consideration.

MR L. SCHWARTE, after a lengthy service at the Theatre Royal, Eastbourne, as musical conductor is relinquishing his duty there to take up a similar post at Felixstowe.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.

NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Z. Andrews.—Mr Harry J. Snelson and Miss Gladys Rees' company is paying a visit here this week with *True to the Core*. Mr Stuart Edward is good as Mr Noel Meadows; Mr Balfour Dennistoun is acceptable as Captain Frank Meadows; the part of the villain is ably sustained by Mr Harry J. Snelson; and Mr Victor Raynor is well placed as Dr. Conyers. The comedy element is well supplied by Mr Willie Barrett as Timothy Twist and by Miss Ethel Gray as Polly Pringle. Miss Gladys Rees ably represents Mabel Gratton, the wronged heroine. Mr Sydney Bryant as Joe Lamb, Mr William H. Burton as Mat Blacklock, Mr D'Arcy Salter as Old Neptune, and Miss Marie Watson Shields as Old Sal complete the cast.

ABERDEEN.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore; Acting-Manager, Mr H. C. Cavanah.—The Drury-lane sporting drama, *A Million of Money*, was presented on Monday night by the Arthurian company of players to a large audience. Mr Arthur Royston, in the part of Harry Dunstable, has a fine character, which he plays most capably; Mr L. Cory-Thomas represents the villainous Major Belgrave with great power; and Mr J. T. Macmillan does not lose a single point in the humorous part of Dick Bounder. Mr J. O. Stewart acts well as Geoffrey St. Clair, and Mr Edwin Palmer plays a very effective Gabriel Hawthorne. Miss Cecil Cromwell and Miss Laura Hansen as Stella St. Clair and Maud Maythorne leave nothing to be desired in the way of cultivated and finished acting.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Ernest Shedon.—The principal attraction this week is Mr Fred W. Millis, the Australian ventriloquist, who always contrives to introduce something fresh and clever into his entertainments. A vocal treat is provided by the Olympian Quartet (Cornish, Sampson, and the Two Slocums), who are heard to particular advantage in their negro melodies; and a most amusing ten minutes' act is given by the Bon-Bons in their pantomimic trap scene, *A Hot Time for One*. Mr Eddie J. Stidder, the musical clown, contributes an extremely agreeable act; and Miss Eva Johnson, comedienne, provides a very attractive variety turn. Miss Madge Gray is equally successful; and other popular performers are Miss Jessie Yashio, a sweet soprano vocalist; Ben Nevis, a smart comedian and dancer; and Almar, a remarkably clever hand-balancer. An item of the performance which is followed with the greatest interest is the wrestling competition among local athletes.

ACCRINGTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Barnes.—On Monday Messrs F. Moule and Nickles opened here with *The Grip of the Law*. Mr John Clyde as Dave Arkwright gave a powerful and artistic performance. Mr Courtney Robinson must be complimented for his Sergeant Frank Paul. As Zeph Sorrell Mr E. D. Nicholls was very amusing. Mr Herbert Evelyn gave an excellent reading of Noel of the Night. Rose Hockaday had a clever representative in Miss Ruth Shepherd; and a chic and sparkling performance was the Beulah Bliss of Miss Ada Frank. As Marion Arkwright Miss Olive Parker was capital; Mrs Baddiscombe was a sound representative by Miss Ada Lucelle; and Mr Willie Black was an admirable Andy Blunt.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr George E. Williams.—The many sensational episodes in *A Woman of Pleasure* are finding favour here among the frequenters of this house of amusement. With the aid of realistic scenery well arranged, Mr James Willard's company is giving a good interpretation. The company includes Messrs W. S. Stevenson, Arthur Gilroy, William Vane, Fred Norburn, M. B. Allen, Carlton, Misses Evelyn Robson, Lilly Langfield, Grace Chesterfield, and Dolly Gilroy.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Fairbairn.—The drama *Rogues and Vagabonds* is the attraction here this week. The company is fairly well balanced as regards merit, and notable delineations of character are those of Misses Georgette Thierry, Hettie Senior, Marjory Armstrong, Katherine Vere, and Messrs Jno. U. Carlyle, Bernard Liell, Cullen and Swinton, Frank Dennis, Cyril Maitland, Mark Wilkinson, and others.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmott.—The company here this week is exceptional. First and foremost are the marvellous Steens, thought-readers. Some remarkable manifestations of occult power are given by Mr and Madame Steen. Most entertaining and laughable are the comicalities of York, Mack, and York in the screaming comedy, entitled *Widow Mack's Troublesome Boys*. The Ottawa Trio in their comedy musical act afford immense fun as well as musical delight. Tray and Rich, black and white comedians, sing and dance in funny fashion. Turns of an excellent character are given by Marie Steel, comedienne and dancer; Lauri Wylie, with his mimicking mannikin; and Arthur Lang, eccentric comedian. The Hippodrome Bioscope is also an attraction.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. C. Mitchell.—Mr J. A. Campbell's company, in *The Sin of her Childhood*, is here this week. Miss Mary Fulton portrays Mary Haysel capably; the Rev. Alan Grey is a clever impersonation in the hands of Mr Chas. Fancourt; Mr Austen Milroy is smart in the character of Stephen Haysel; Mr Campbell effectively fills the part of Captain Thornton; and Little Jennie is good as Eric Dugdale. Little Dot Moss introduces some fine specialities.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr George Stone.—Mr Henry Swinerd's (No. 1) company, in *Dare Devil Dorothy*, is here. The hero, Captain George Fielding, is played with much power by Mr Wm. Francis Green; Mr Henry C. Ward is a capable Captain Edward Dudley; Mr Arthur Verne as Silas Crump shows himself an able comedian; and Miss Nellie Harcourt is exceedingly humorous as Judith, as is also Mr Eric Forth as Featherstone Hough. Ruth Montrose is successfully portrayed by Miss Mildred Clay, and Miss Kathleen Garnon, in the title-rôle, has great opportunities, which are utilised with great skill.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi.—Miss Ella and her troupe of forest-bred lions and famous boarhound tops the bill here this week. The animals have been remarkably well trained, and Miss Ella has perfect control of them. The Vivians give an interesting turn, *Life's Reverie* and the duel act being especially good. J. A. Cassels is a Scotch comedian of more than ordinary merit with some very good songs; Barney Stuart's impersonations are quite realistic; Ailsa Douglas sings admirably; Geo. Antill, the "evening shadow," is an artist of considerable merit; and Rosie Bartlet is a refined comedienne.

BILSTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—Here we have George Schicklays and his performing bears. Support to the entertainment is given by Hilda De Grey, soprano; Frank Royal, singer and dancer; the Cosmo Trio, in *Jimmy's Holiday*; Bendo, the contortionist; Sisters Tyrrell, cake walkers; W. M'Ivor, vocalist; Fred Ward, acrobatic dancer; and the Revell Troupe, in a pantomimical sketch, called *Mischief*.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr Lewis A. Long.—Mr Leslie Norman's recently organised company occupies the boards this week in the musical comedy *A Trip to Chinatown*, whereby pleasant memories have been recalled of this happy go-as-you-please piece, and which playgoers have again welcomed with acclamation. Mr Charles Seguin, the latest Welland Strong, is fully equal to his predecessors in the part, and makes affairs lively whenever he is on the stage, which is pretty often. Another comedian who assists in keeping the fun going is Mr Jerrold Manville, one of the best Ben Gays we have seen. Mr Will Smith also creates laughter as Noah Heap, his dancing being excellent. The widow Mrs Guyer is acted with the necessary go by Miss Harriett Fawn, who proves herself in every way a most accomplished artist. Miss Dorothy Vicott is a trim and natty maid, Flirt, her dancing being particularly neat. Mr Frederick Bousfield still plays his original character of Slavin Payne with wonderful freshness. Mr Leslie Austin and Mr Oswald Gray do well as the two young bachelors Rashleigh Gay and Norman Blood, their duet in the first act receiving a well-merited encore. Miss Florrie M'Innes (Tiny Gay), Miss Winifred Davies (Isabel Dame), Miss Beatrice Erle (Willie Grow), contribute creditable representations of their respective parts. The Three Canadian Belles easily trip themselves into the good graces of the audience.

PALACE THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Trussell.—This is the final week of Mr Macnaghten's first season, in Bath, and amongst the good things provided in the programme in the bewildering turn of the Violas; Shang Hia, in his conjuring entertainment can hold his own with the best in his line; great laughter is aroused by Fred Ginnett's *Rejected Remounts*, a capitally arranged interlude; Victoria Dagmar's performance on the horizontal bar and rope is both daring and clever. An early return visit is paid by Herbert Shelley, the well-known actor vocalist; whose refined costume songs are always worth hearing; Mr Cavidor Davies, a popular local tenor, sings his ballads with ability and success; and Kate Lynd, comedienne, also appears.

BELFAST.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Harte.—Mr Auguste Van Biene's company is here with *The Broken Melody*. Mr Van Biene played Paul Borinski, his acting calling forth commendation. On Monday he delighted the audience with a series of performances on the 'cello, executed in the masterly style for which he is famous. Miss Lena Burnleigh's Mabel Borinski shared the honours. As General Ivanoff Mr Arthur Bawtree achieved success, and the rôle of Dudley Mortimer was made amusing by Mr T. P. Haynes. Special commendation is due to Mr Charles A. Morgan for his capital assumption of Dixon; and Miss Rose Ralph's impersonation of the Duchess De Verviers was strikingly effective. Miss Avis Grahame filled the rôle of Mrs Dixon with much acceptance; and other parts were in the capable hands of Miss Ida Chapman and Miss Morton, and Messrs Baskerville, Benson, Henry Edwards, and John Cummings.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr John A. Walker.—The chief attraction here is the Stelling Troupe, in their marvellous quick-change act, *At the Masquerade Ball*, which has been received with unbounded enthusiasm. Mr Arthur Albert, actor-vocalist, has been successful. The Vernon Troupe surprise all by their extraordinary xylophone performance. A capital reception has been accorded to the Harry Evans Trio, in their laughable absurdity, *Jack's Dilemma*, and Foo-Choo appears in his astonishing magical act, "The Haunted Canopy." Miss M. May is a delightful comedienne and an exceedingly clever danseuse, and Les Laurens appear in a novel statuary act. Also engaged are Moretti and Alice, who introduce a wonderful performing dog.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brock.—Boswell's Circus is the chief attraction at this popular hall this week, and the stud of ponies and dogs do some marvellous feats, the entire performance having a capital reception. Mr Syd May, mimetic marvel, impersonates leading artistes realistically. Miss May Lilian Levey has been rewarded with deserved recalls; Roze and Calvert appear to advantage in their comedy act which is certainly very smart; and Miss Edith Courtney's fine ballad vocalism delights all. Miss Nellie Vanderbilt is a talented comedienne; and others on the bill are Miss Katie Butler, comedienne; and Mr Will Musgrave.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—Flem and Brox top the bill here, and their startling gymnastic performance has evoked an ovation. Sinclair and Whiteford create roars of laughter with their amusing comedy sketch. A laughable comedy act, *The Photographer and the Lady*, is staged by Robins and Collier, and Chorley and Connor are talented comedians and dancers. Le Brun and Irene, jugglers and gymnasts, provide a smart performance; and the contralto singing of Miss Marie Blythe gains universal admiration. Harry Calvo makes a hit with taking songs, and others appearing are the Ottawa Trio, expert musical cowboys; Len Lever, coon singer and dancer; and W. Montgomery, a local comedian and a universal favourite.

BLACKBURN.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. H. Page.—On Monday Messrs Scudamore and Stephens's company presented the sensational melodrama, *Because I Love You*. Beautifully staged and mounted, the play was received with the greatest favour. Mr F. Stephens submits an excellent character sketch as Nemo, and Mr R. A. Greene displays distinct ability as Captain Stirling. As Professor Predate Mr Howard L. Tracy contributes a skilful impersonation, and Mr Leonard Maitland is most successful as Eddie Puplett. Mr Walter Raynham makes the best of his opportunities as Christopher Chandos, and Mr C. V. Wright is an efficient Tom Kipper. Miss Florence Trevoir creates an admirable impression as Lady Ursula Milfoil, and Miss Madge North is to be congratulated on her conscientious performance as Norina Chandos, while Mrs Puplett has a capable representative in Miss Adeline Montagu. The comedy element is well sustained by Miss Lucy Murray as Cleopatra Cotton and Mr Herbert Boyle as Nebuchadnezzar Moke.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Will Murray; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Drury.—Mr Walter Groves and company are topping the bill here this week, and their sketch *Artful Jim* is creating roars of laughter; the Dean Tribune Trio are enthusiastically applauded in the *Cheerful Idiot*; Mdlle. De Rose, undoubtedly a big favourite, has been accorded a tremendous reception at each performance; Edna Cragge, with a charming stage presence, is a popular turn; Woodhouse and Wells, comedians and dancers; Smith and Johnson, duettists; Nash and Noel, comedians; John Callan, eccentric comedian; and J. H. Hawtrey, actor-vocalist, complete the bill.

BOOTLE.

ROYAL MUNCASTER THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Pennington; Manager, Mr H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert E. Wilson.—*Why Woman Sins*, a naval drama, produced by Messrs Geo. Harris and Fred S. Jenning's company, is proving a great attraction here this week. Mr Roy Fortescue plays a telling part as the hero, Lieut. Harry Maxwell; Mr Fred Terriss gives a capital portrayal of the villain, Captain Harry Carlton; Mr George Harris as Cecil Spencer and Mr Austin Lenton as Sam Spavins provide plenty of humour; Miss Winifred Preece as Lily De Vere is very pleasing, her songs being rendered in capital voice; Miss Mildred Cottell is good as Ida Valette.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr J. Leicester Jackson's company is appearing in *Dishonoured* with pronounced success. Mr St. John gives a clever and telling performance of Philip Cunningham, in which he is admirably supported by Miss Winifred Stuart as Leslie Maynard; Mr Percy Ballard enacts the villain of the piece with commendable power; and the play is most efficiently rendered throughout.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—A capital company includes Verno and Voyce, in their vocal burlesque, *Jack Sheppard; or, the Burglary at the Grange;* Bob Hamilton, a clever Scotch comedian and concertinist; Miss Madge Daly, comedienne; Joe Cheevers and Ned Kennedy, Irish sketch artistes; Mr Gus Hindell, character comedian; Abel and Welsh, gymnastic grotesques; Hess and Lisbon, comic skaters; Johnny Worman, comedian; and Harry Tate's *Motoring* sketch.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry Johnston.—*Winnie Brooke, Widow*, is the best thing that the brilliant and accomplished Ada Reeve has done, and will probably mark an epoch in this artiste's career, for Miss Reeve is more than fascinating, more than charming in her new rôle, and she proves herself to be a clever actress. Mr Henry Vibart as the misogynist, who is subjugated by the fair and fascinating widow, acts well, and Mr Robb Harwood as the Rev. Elihu Garside is excellent. Miss Drusilla Wills as Honoria, who "busts up a monastery," and Mr W. L. Rignold as Hercules are successful. Messrs Ashton-Jarry and Edgar Stevens as the lovers and the Misses Amy Betteley and Doris Lind as their lady-loves assist in the success, as does also Mr J. F. M'Ardle as the solicitor.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr V. Turner.—In *The Dandy Doctor* Miss Florence Smithers is seen in a fine comedy part, that of Jane, "the general," which she plays with an energy and an individuality that are decidedly her own, and which are provocative of intense mirth and much applause. Miss Lizzie Primmer adds to the fun as Ivy Pendred; while Mr James Danvers scores as the Colonel. Mr Edward Marris, who brings the production, was down for the part of the "tinned meat" millionaire, but he being indisposed, the rôle was played successfully by Mr Ashford. Messrs Walter Nugent and Fred Russell as the M.D. and his locum tenens also fare well.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Lester Collingwood.—*The London Fireman*, which was originally produced at the Surrey Theatre on Oct. 13, 1902, is the attraction here this week. Mr Edward L. Garside as Henry Curtis fulfils a most trying task, and if the character was detested the actor was applauded most heartily, his simulation of the weird, delirious ravings of the dipsomaniac being intensely realistic. Mr Frank E. Petley as the false Viscount Fleming gives a successful and finished study of the calm and passionless villain. Mr Hodgson-Taylor as the fireman hero and real heir is at once the beau-ideal of firemen with his manly bearing and acting. Mr Percy Maitland has a good part as Joe Bloomer, otherwise Bluener. Mr Frank Hertie deserves praise as Doctor Gerrard, and Mr Leo St. Clair is successful as Abel Fortnum. Miss Violet Temple makes a graceful and dignified Countess. Miss Adeline Raby depicts the trials and sufferings of Grace Curtis with a pathos that moves all hearts, and Miss Gertrude Price makes of the heroine, Ida, a sweet character, replete with gentle yet firm traits that withstand all a villain's snares. The humorous parts fulfil their mission just as admirably, the rôle of Nixey Stinger, who aspires to become a "handcuff king," being realised in a lively and meritorious manner by Mr J. Forbes Knowles, while to share with him the amenities of a comic courtship is Miss Nelly Garside, who successfully embodies the frivolous maidservant Polly Bramble. Mr Chas. Mont is humorous as one Gurglewach, a German in trouble, and Mr Joe Rockley is a favourite as chief of the fire brigade. The play furnishes some imposing and inspiring tableaux, and is exceedingly rich in scenic effects, while the music is always appropriate and effective.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—*Green Bushes*, which is the first of a series of plays that Mr Matt Wilkinson is engaged to produce during a stock season, evoked the liveliest interest here on its presentation last Monday. Mrs Matt Wilkinson scored as Miami, her acting in this character being consistent and graceful. Miss Beatrice Wilkinson as Nelly acts and sings with much success, and Miss Madge Blundell takes the part of Geraldine well. Mr M. Morley Carrol as George O'Kennedy, Mr Oswald Lingard as Connor, Mr W. Gardener as Murtogh, Mr Matt Wilkinson as the showman, and Mr H. Macdonald as Jack Gong all acquit themselves of their parts well.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard.—*The Stolen Birthright* is responsible for some clever acting, and large audiences have signified their appreciation by their presence and applause. Mr Chas. Draycott, whose production it is (with Mr H. B. Peppin), plays the evil genius, Count Marco, in a powerful manner. Mr C. Quinton Fulford does fine duty as the hero, whom he makes most popular. Mr Henry W. Monte gains good opinions for his clever acting as the silent witness. Mr Wilfred Brandon is full of fun as Pedro, and Mr Peppin as the Prince Antonio scores. Miss Lydia Donovan is a prepossessing heroine, and Miss Celestine Brandon is vivacious and bright, as Nita should be.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Hermann.—This week Mr Frank Bateman's company is occupying the stage here with the sensational Russian drama *At War with Women*. It is played by a strong company, including Miss Lizzie Montague, and is well staged.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Kenyon.—There is a good company engaged here, made up of Herr Fritz, mystifier, supported by Leo Fritz and company; Evelyn Taylor, male impersonator; the Cecils, duettists and dancers; the Stavordale Quintette, in their Sousa marches and wonderful imitations of voices on banjos and harp; the Sisters Devona, aerial gymnasts; Harry Bent, mimic; the Leggett Combination of comedy artistes, in *The Maid of Athens;* Carlotta Lunn, comedienne, ballad vocalist; the Orion Brothers, revolving ladder performers; and Daisy De Roy, comedienne, &c.

BRIDLINGTON.

PEOPLE'S PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Morgan.—The Jake Almo Troupe are scoring well here in their triple-bar act, and two of the troupe give a capital magic pantomimic sketch. Bella Leaburn is a smart descriptive vocalist; Lorenzo gives a speciality séance; and Louie Kearns, vocalist and dancer; Ettie Biron, a ballad singer of good quality; and the Macnallys, clever sand dancers and rifle and sword-swingers, all contribute to an excellent programme.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Lessee, Messrs Beanland, Bath, and Danton.—The Waterloo Pierrots have struck a new line here, and adapted these large sheltered grounds to their requirements. They give three varied programmes daily, the troupe including such well-known artistes as George Hyam, J. W. Ellison, Syd Hind, Percival Newman, &c., and, of course, the genial and amusing Beanland and Bath and Charlie Danton in their cleverly played sketches.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr Stanley Cooke and company are here this week, under the direction of Mr Herbert Greville, with *The New Clown*. Mr Cooke's clever impersonation of Lord Cyril Garston is well known in Blackpool, and meets with genuine approval. Mr Greville plays the rôle of Mr Dixon admirably, and Mr Fred Paul as Jack Trent, Mr Fred Lake as Tom Baker, and Mr Allen Borthwick as Mr Pennyquick are also very satisfactory in their respective parts. The ladies here do very little work beyond looking attractive, which is quite an easy task for Miss Leila Russell (Maud), Miss Gertrude Bibby (Winnie), and Miss Amy Francis (Rosie Platt). *The Test* is the title of the curtain-raiser.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr T. Sergenson.—This week Mr Charles Frohman is presenting here *Billy's Little Love Affair*. Mr Arthur Kightley portrays Jack Frere in an admirable manner, and Mr Frank Lacy is an excellent Sir Harry Harmon. The Jim Greaves of Mr Howard Williams and the Mr Munkittrick of Mr Douglas Munro are likewise clever impersonations which cause great amusement. Miss Aida Jenoure is an able exponent of Mrs Greaves, and Miss Margaret Damer is a charming Miss Marr. Other parts are in efficient hands, and the staging is a special feature.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Signor Pepi and Co.; Manager, Mr T. P. Duignan.—The Piccihani Troupe of acrobats top the bill here this week. Flo Chevalier is a pleasing comedienne, and Leslie H. Murray proves very mystifying as a magician and card manipulator. Daisy Ray sings coon songs, and Zasma is a clever gymnast. Weston and Murray appear in a sketch; Vernando gives a ventriloquial act; and Bosanquet plays the violin like the true artist he is.

BLYTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr George E. Good.—Mr Penfold Field's company has occupied the stage here with the musical comedy drama entitled *Fatal Fortune*. Mr Fred Conyers makes a manly Jack Weston, whilst the Captain Seton Desmond of Mr J. Leighton-Leigh is a striking impersonation of the wily adventurer. Mr Gerald Valentine as Daniel Salmon plays well the part of the villain's accomplice; Mr Harry Farrell is praiseworthy as George Thornton; Tim Larks in the hands of Mr Percy Boucher leaves nothing to be desired; Miss Sybil Hammersley is an excellent Becky; and Miss Madeline Clifford as Mary and Miss Marie Ramuz as Beauty Glitters render valuable support.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee, Mr Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Mr Lawrence Brough and company opened here on Monday night with *The Cruise of the Saucy Sally*. Mr Lawrence Brough acts with his customary ability, ease, and sangfroid in the part of Herbert Jocelyn; Mr Percy Marshall is amusing as Jack Buncombe; the muscular and demonstrative Ulysses Jeffson is vigorously portrayed by Mr Edward Gurney; Mr Hewson Elliott is satisfactory as Evan Evans; Mr Harry Collier gives a diverting impersonation of Percival Chudleigh; Mr Dan F. Roe is a breezy Captain Jocelyn; Mr Harold M. M'Nay contributes a capital character sketch of the bibulous Perkins; Miss Kate Milford plays the part of the deceived wife, Rosie Jocelyn, with natural grace; Miss Amy Singleton is well suited as the mother-in-law, Mrs Lambert; Miss Dorothy Casey infuses spirit and animation into the rôle of Cecile.

SHAFTESBURY HALL.—Mr T. J. West's Living Pictures, with an entirely revised programme, continue to attack.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Richardson.—Mr Arthur Milton and the Milton Ray's company, in the farcical comedy *A Hot Night*, are the attraction here this week. Mr Arthur Milton, with a capital song, is a genuine success as Frank Frith, and he has good support from Mr Clifford Morgan as Professor Sheerman. Mr H. Osman as the henpecked Fontenoy Flutterwig. Mr H. T. Butler as Mark Maybury, Mr Rolando Martin as the waiter Whiffles, Miss Madaline L'Estrange as the jealous Mrs Flutterwig, and from Mr F. Mulvey as Captain Drake, Miss Susie Beavan as Polly Drake, Miss Clara Reid as Lucy Lorimer, and the other numerous members of the company.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Francis Laidler.—A large and appreciative audience greeted the appearance here on Monday of Mr Charles Hartley's répertoire company in *The Idler*. Mr Hartley distinguished himself in an able effort as Mark Cross, and as Lady Harding Miss Ethel Gordon Paull displayed intense emotional power; Miss Maud Stoner's Kate Merryweather was a bright and animated impersonation; Sir John Harding had an able exponent in Mr W. Vaughan; Mr D. W. Cleugh as Simeon Strong was convincing; and capital support was rendered by Miss Phyllis Noell as Mrs Cross, Miss Mabel Durrant as Mrs Glyn Stanmore, and Mr F. Graham as General Merryweather. The play was admirably staged. *Lady Windermere's Fan* was given on Tuesday, *Sixes and Sevens* was the curtain-raiser, and *Captain Swift* and *Love's Sacrifice* are also billed for representation.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr P. A. Lennon.—R. G. Knowles is paying a welcome return visit; Lillian Bishop's male impersonations add interest to the entertainment; Zaro and Arno are diverting comedy bar performers; Alexandra Edwin contributes good soprano songs; Cullen and Carthy, assisted by the diminutive Cluley, submit a capital comedy turn; Dan Crawley, the eccentric comedian, bustles through his songs in good style; excellent sand dancing by Norman French wins plaudits; clay modelling by Gallando is cleverly done; some excellent humour, good vocalism, and instrumentalism are supplied by the Four Elysians; Gwennie Hasto, the acrobatic comedienne, is paying a return visit with his usual success; and *Fun in a Museum* is contributed by the smart Automatos.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr F. Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr E. Harrison.—The old favourite Dutch Daly is once more delighting audiences here with his concertina and his jokes. The Steinway Glee Singers contribute excellent items. There are two acceptable comediennes in Edie Rivers and Lily Foy. Expert juggling by the Wallys combines excellent humour; as a gymnast and equilibrist Dora Martini displays nerve and exquisite grace; Ray and Rodney submit a funny knockabout turn; the instrumental performance by the Seebolds is appreciated; and a smart and dainty turn is given by clever Dandy George and his dog Rosie.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr E. S. Willard and company opened here on Monday with *The Cardinal*. Mr Willard merits unstinted praise for his masterly portrayal of Cardinal Giovanni De Medici. Miss Maud Hoffmann makes a graceful and charming Filiberta; Mrs Russ Whytal is highly successful as Claricia De Medici; Mr A. S. Homewood gives an excellent impersonation of Giuliano De Medici; and Mr Walter Edmunds as Guido Baglioni contributes a fine piece of acting. Mr William Sauter is admirably suited as the scheming outlaw, Andrea Strozzi, and Mr Charles H. Fenton's Bartolommeo deserves commendation. The remaining characters are satisfactorily sustained. The week's programme also included *The Professor's Love Story*.

EDEN THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wilfred Cotton; Resident Manager, Mr S. Arden Godfrey.—Mr Walter Melville's company is here this week with *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Miss East-Robertson gives a sterling and impressive portrayal of Barbara Wade. Mr Howard Russell is a capital Farmer Meadows, whose daughter Nellie finds an excellent exponent in Miss Rosemary Rees. Mr Wingold Lawrence acquits himself admirably as Jack Livingstone; Mr Charles Terry as Jack's friend Dr. Weston is very effective; Mr John Brooks's Luke Ramsden is well played; Mr George Unwin is completely successful as the villainous Cuthbert Lumley; and Mr William Russell is a satisfactory Crofts. Miss Violet Luddington imparts great tenderness to her representation of Constance Cornell; and amusement is afforded by Mr John Hitchins as Toby Turvey and Miss Jessie Danvers as Tilly Vane. The play is superbly staged and mounted.

AQUARIUM.—Manager, Mr W. J. Hardy; Secretary, Mr S. H. Andrews.—The Rosabel Ladies' orchestra, under the direction of Miss Rose Telfer; Teddy Whittle, comedian; and Roy Vincent, actor-mimic, are specially engaged here this week. Promenade concerts are given by the Aquarium orchestra, under the direction of Mr J. W. Slatter.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General Manager, Mr Ernest Lepard.—The following are here this week:—The Bezant troupe of cyclists, in their latest sensation "The Devil's Aërial Orbit;" Polk and Collins, America's greatest banjoists; Paul Vandy, juggler and trickster; Lady Mansel and her juveniles, in *A Concert Rehearsal*; the Two Bees (Harry and Flora), in their versatile comedy entertainment; Ben Albert, quaint comedian; Kopski, pianist; Bijou Russell, comedienne and champion lady buck dancer of America; the Two Anartos, musical sketch artists; Charles Coverdale, comedian; and the Alhambra pictures.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The following are here this week:—The Kremo Family, Risley acrobats; Mary M. Glenn, soprano vocalist; Mrs Richard Edgar and Mr Lionel Glenister, in the duologue, *The Lady and the Parson*; Mdlle. Kloët, in a series of living pictures and poses; the Meers, in their funny wire act; François Rothig, prestidigitateur; the Morton Comedy Trio, in the operetta, *The Dandy Bandits*; the Brothers Lang, comedians; Nelly Vonare, graceful contortionist; Agnes Mahr, the American Tommy Atkins; and Animated Pictures.

NEW PALACE PIER.—General Manager, Mr C. Thompson Ford; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—Miss Lena Stanton's company is here this week with *The Belle of Bangalore*. Miss Lena Stanton as the Princess Ko-Ko and Miss Esther Stanton as Small-Sing give charming representations. Mr Harry Jay is an amusing Pat Murphy; Mr D. Lyndon's Rajah is well played, and Mr Will Terry is effective as the Princess's father. The remaining characters are ably sustained. Little Keeno affords great delight with her quaint antics and sayings, and the speciality turns are appreciated.

WEST PIER PAVILION.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr A. D. Norman.—Mr Alfred Tapping and Mr Harcourt Beatty's company is here this week with *The Road to Ruin*. Mr Charles Cartwright as Dornton, sen., is admirably suited, and Miss Elsie Chester gives a superb impersonation of the Widow Warren; Mr Alfred Tapping's Silky is a clever piece of acting; Mr Harcourt Beatty's Goldfinch is a capital portrayal; Mr Conway Wingfield is seen to great advantage as Harry Dornton; Mr Ernest H. Patersen is an entertaining Sulky; Miss Edith Cartwright makes a vivacious Sophia; and Mr Frederick Moyes as Milford is distinctly effective.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Macready Chute.—*The Belle of New York* is here on a return visit, meeting, as usual, with much appreciation. The musical comedy is staged with new scenery, new dresses and costumes. New songs have been added for several of the principals, and Mr George Musgrove's company is a competent one. The chorus and augmented orchestra are highly satisfactory, Mr Leonard Hornsey conducting with skill. Miss Dot Stephens is a pleasing exponent of Violet Grey; Miss Lillian Digges is in every way charming as Fifi Fricot; Miss Winnie Browne is both efficient and imposing as Cora Angelique; and Miss Luna Love is advantageously cast as Kissie Fitzgarter. Mr Frank Lawton scores all round as Blinky Bill, his dancing and whistling obtaining much applause; and he is ably supported by Miss May Angus-Young, who is a capital exponent of Mamie Clancy, and dances well. Mr Harry A. Meymott is amusing as Ichabod Bronson; Mr Philip Leslie is satisfactory as Harry Bronson; Mr Max Copland presents a quaint study of Pumpernick; Mr Cecil Burt is sufficiently imposing as Doc Sniffkins; Mr Charles W. Anson is decidedly good as Kenneth Mugg; and Messrs Alfred Selby and Albert Sealy are comically mechanic as the Twin Portuguese.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Ernest Carpenter.—*Lady Godiva* is well staged here by Messrs J. F. Preston and P. E. Doherty's company. Miss Hilda Shirley is very successful in the title-rôle, playing the part with care and skill; Mr F. B. Woulfe is a good exponent of Tom o' Coventry; Mr Alfred D. Adams infuses dignity into his impersonation of Leofric; Mr James E. Page is effective as Edgar, as also is Mr Harry Marco as Unwolf; Mr W. H. Barlow acts with care as Edgar; and Miss Georgie Walton is pleasing as Lady Aldyth. The amusing parts of Shacklebolt and Elfrida are capitally taken by Mr Sidney Benson and Miss Nina Westerleigh, the remainder of the cast being efficient.

PALACE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Brothers; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr Welchman.—The Barra Troupe present a smart turn of comedy and music which obtains appreciation, and Leonard Barry's speciality, *The Moocher's Walk*, causes much hilarity. Others appearing here are Chard and Cleary, in their smart duologue, *A Covent-garden Ball*; Miss Marie Reeve, a pleasing vocalist and dancer; Arthur Melrose, a comedian and whistler of ability; Terry and Bentley, in a good dancing and acrobatic comedy act; Miss Alice Maple, a capable comedienne and dancer; Little Dando, a quaint eccentric comedian; the Ashers, in a taking act *The Dude and the Soubrette*; Andy Burn, a good dancer and character comedian; and the Brothers Hayes, smart dancers and patter comedians. Vernon's new animated pictures are both amusing and well produced.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr Thomas Barrasford, jun.—Tschernoff's "Entertainment in a Sporting Yard" heads the programme, several trained ponies, dogs, and pigeons being introduced; Paulton and Dooley, cycle acrobats, are exceptionally clever in their line; the Four Maisanos are amusing as eccentric musical artistes; Silvo, in an interesting musical turn; Fred Poplar, an entertaining comedian; Bob Hutt, a comedian whose eccentricities amuse; Miss Kitty Wager, a pleasing comedienne, with good songs; and Juno Salmo, "the Golden Mephisto;" a clever contortionist, &c. The entertainment, two performances nightly, concludes with animated pictures.

COLSTON HALL.—The Imperial Animated Pictures, under the management of Mr J. R. Poole, attract a good attendance at each exhibition, matinées included. Miss Kate Kildare's Princess Orchestra plays good music in excellent style; and vocal numbers are pleasingly given by the Panama Concert Company. There are also several variety turns.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr James M. Hardie; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr James M. Hardie, jun.—Mr Tom H. Taylor's company opened here on Monday in the drama called *The Female Swindler*. As Lu Valroy Miss Violet Ellicott made a great impression, and proved herself equal to the exacting demands of the character. Miss Florrie Kelsey was also seen to advantage as the charming May Andrews. Mr Leslie Carter as Jack Coulson was excellent, Mr Felix Pitt capably sustained the swell mobsman rôle of Geoffrey Warden, and was ably supported by Mr Rule Pyott as another rogue, Abram Mikestein. Mr Luke Forster kept the house in roars as Billy Binks, with his various disguises as assistant to Coulson in detecting the criminals—and had an able supporter in Miss Edie Martin as Mary Ann. Mr Adam Alexander made an excellent retired merchant as James Oliver, and the work Mr T. W. Duncombe did as Harold Travers redounded much to his credit. The scenery was beautiful, and the staging called forth much applause, especially the excellent mechanical change from a scene on the roofs to one in a garret.

BURY (LANCS.).

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—Mr Culling's experiment of putting a variety entertainment on at this house commenced on Monday. An excellent programme includes the Sisters Warwick, acrobatic cyclists; A. G. Spry, Anglo-Australian comedian; Kitts and Windrum, society entertainers; Three Boleros, horizontal bar experts; Four Rosaires, acrobats; the Royal Korries; Fred Horsfall, Kisbey, and Rose Waller.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. H. Nunn.—Mr Ben Geeet's company with *Nobbs's Vendetta* has been amusing us here for three nights. Mr Cyril Cattley personates Jack Harland, and Mr J. S. Smith does well as Horatio Hobbs. Miss Helen Haye plays remarkably well as Celeste Dupont, and Miss S. Rusholme throws plenty of life and animation into the character of Sybil Danes.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—On Monday night Mr F. R. Benson and his clever company commenced their customary visit here with *She Stoops to Conquer*. As Young Marlow Mr Benson did himself full justice while Mrs Benson was all that could be desired as Kate Hardcastle. Mr George R. Weir is always droll, and as Tony Lumpkin, he surpassed himself. Mr Percy D. Owen was excellent as Sir Charles Marlow, as were Mr H. O. Nicholson (Mr Hardcastle), Mr Walter Hampden (Hastings), Mr Owen (Strugo), and Mr Arthur Whitby (Diggory). Miss Gertrude Scott made a charming Constance Neville, while Mrs Hardcastle was well played by Miss Alice Denvil. *King Lear* was produced on Tuesday night, on Wednesday *Richard the Second* was given, Thursday *Othello*, and on Friday the Orestean Trilogy of Æschylus.

CARDIFF.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robert Redford.—*The Mariners of England* is being played here by Mr Ernest R. Abbott's company this week. Mr E. R. Abbott is a dignified Lord Nelson, and gives a realistic impersonation of the great admiral. Mr Herbert Morgan as Harry Dell and Miss Ada Abbott as Mabel Talbot fill their parts with distinction. The conspirators are well represented by Mr W. H. Garbois as Captain Lebaudy and Mr Edward Ouston as Marston. Mr Edwin Keene, the Tom Tripp, is a versatile comedian, and Miss Isabel Singleton as Polly Appleyard keeps the house in roars of laughter.

KING'S THEATRE (LATE GRAND).—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; General Manager, Mr Robt. Sawin.—Miss Go-Won-Go-Mohawk is here with *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*, and appears in the title-part most spiritedly. A strong and emphatic portrayal of Manuel Lopes is given by Mr C. A. Carlile, and a manly and natural representative of the hero is Mr Theo. Alker. The sympathetic rendering of Nellie Stocton by Miss Minnie Goepel is thoroughly appreciated; Mr C. W. Charles capitally fills the rôle of Colonel Stocton; and an extremely amusing delineation of Matilda Sniffles makes Miss Dorothy Neville a great favourite.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea.—Little Tich is drawing large audiences at this popular variety house. Vasco, the mad musician, with his twenty-five instruments, also appears, and excellent turns are done by Alexandre and Bertie, on the trapeze; Slade Murray, actor-vocalist and comedian; Burns and Evans, in *Funnabalism*; Lew Wells, a musical comedian; Chas. F. Best as M'Bunker, the mountebank; Georgina Leonard, burlesque actress; and Frank Lynne, the "funny-Matograph."

CARLISLE.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME.—Proprietress, Mrs P. E. Veitch; General Manager, Mr C. Algie.—This is the last week of the season at this excellent place of amusement, and a capital company has been engaged, headed by the clever Mdlle. Florizell, on her aerial mirror, a most attractive performance. Mr Lester Cooke, equestrian, does well in a new act, "Bashi-Bazouk;" Arthur Bright, Milanese piper and vocalist, submits an excellent turn, as also does Percy Maye, female impersonator; Algie meets with an ovation for his juggling act; and the Sisters Urma, trapeze artistes, are very smart. Other turns are Alfred, equestrian; Almero, wire walker, a really clever artiste; Leoni, gymnast; and "The Life of Marie Antoinette," by Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope. Wednesday night was set apart for a benefit for the Cumberland Infirmary, and on Friday a complimentary benefit to Mr C. Algie took place.

CASTLEFORD.

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr T. W. Moyes; Acting-Manager, Mr A. P. Thwaites.—This place of amusement is being well patronised here this week. Topping the bill are the Yorkshire Mill Lasses, Mona and Gladys Wells, who are received with marked enthusiasm; Mdlle. Bartenelli, a graceful lady bender, gives a wonderful performance; Ougeneo, equilibrist, juggler, and balancer, proves a success; Ivy Lennard is successful with her up-to-date songs; The Boultons (Fred and Ivy) give an accomplished and interesting turn as limelight coons; Miss Gertie Malyon (an extra turn) wins much applause for her various songs; Syd Hermann, an Anglo-Hebrew comedian and vocalist, is well received, and Rose Ascot is a clever descriptive and burlesque actress.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr George G. Ridley.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr J. Edward Whitty's company occupies the stage here with *The World's Desire*. Miss Van Praagh is a great favourite as Dora Mutley; Ellis Tridley finds a powerful representative in Mr J. Hartwell Kirby; and a prominent and successful portrayal is Mr Harry Belford's Nathaniel Mutley.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr L. B. Barnard.—At the top of the bill here we have Mr Adderley Howard and company, in a sketch founded on incidents in Emile Zola's *Nana*. Another leading attraction is found in the spirited dancing of the Eight Olympian Stars. Ada Victor, serio; Harry Wilson, mimic; Dessa and Lovett, acrobats; the Knick-Knacks, an entertaining couple of variety artistes; Ferris and Farnley, patterers; and Lacey's Erascope are also among the attractions.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis.—This week Mr Frederick J. Donne assumes local management on behalf of Captain Davis. The programme includes the Musical Jees, in the sketch *The Scarecrow*; the Lannons, pedestal dancers; Professor Thornbury, sketcher and ventriloquist; W. F. Moss, comedian; the Sisters Hall, vocalists; Wood and Merion, speciality artistes; Daisy Davidson, billed as the New Zealand soprano; and Miss Florence, mimic.

CHELTENHAM.

OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr H. Oswald Redford.—Mr Cecil Du Gué submitted *What Men Call Love* on Monday evening to an interested audience. The author himself forcibly played the part of the hero, Ralph Trevanian, and was well supported by a hard-working company. Miss Laura Walker sustained with considerable power the part of Lola Trevanian, the hero's unhappy half-sister; Miss Ethel Gordon as the long-suffering heroine was good; and Mr William Porter was a most convincing stage villain as Stephen Lyle. Miss Pollie Denville and Mr A. E. Andrews introduced timely comic relief as the low-born lovers; Mr Victor Gordon gave an excellent study of the engine-driver, Joe Barton; and Miss Gertrude FitzPatrick was pretty and natural as Little Ruth. Mr Ernest C. Edwards as Hira Henry, a mild sort of villain, was satisfactory; and other typical characters of London street life were well depicted by other members of the company. The scenery and staging are admirable.

CHESTER.

ROYALTY.—Proprietor, Mr Milton Bode; Resident-Manager, Mr H. Burgess Harries.—The return visit of Mr Fred Karno's company in *His Majesty's Guests* is warmly welcomed here. Mr Dan Rolyat is the principal humourist, and his sketch of a scene outside a fashionable emporium is a great success. Mr Sydney Russell creates much amusement as a flunkey, and Mr Gus Le Clerq as a curate and Miss Jessie Bolton are amusing. A special feature in the last act is a male voice quintet, which is repeatedly encored.

CHORLEY (LANCS.)

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr G. T. Sante.—This, the last week of the season, the boards are occupied by Mr Julian Malvern's capital company under the direction of Mr Charles M. Julian, with the excellent drama *I Defy the World*. Mr Lewis Gilbert gives an exceedingly powerful and effective rendering of Leon Darville; Mr Charles Conway is exceptionally realistic as Larochе; Mr Joseph W. Worley capitally sustains Count De Beaulieu; Mr Dunlop Stewart ably undertaking General Delaporte. Mr Charles H. Raymond is good as Andre, Mr Charles M. Julian in conjunction with Miss Maude Lillian, as Samuel Wozzle and Marie Wozzle, being responsible for some excellent comedy. Miss A. Tullock gives a highly-finished interpretation of Pauline Delaporte. Miss Lina Nazeby depicts successfully Blanche Darville, and Little Dorothy Vivian is skilful as Fanchette.

CONSETT.

NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr Lloyd Clarance.—Mr Geo. Le Wist's hippodrome company is here this week. It includes the following talented artists:—Craig, Rose, and Craig, electric gymnasts, who top the bill; Dan Horner, character comedian and dancer; Henry Reno, conjuror; Miss H. Whitfield, with her marvellous cures; Miss Lily Thorn, serio; Le Wist, in his ventriloquial turn; Tom Keene, versatile vocalist; Miss Amy Lynn, ballad singer; and Ray and Miles, the Continental comedy jugglers.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr John Horgan.—On Monday night *A Pair of Spectacles* was played by Mr Russell Rosse's company. Mr David James made an excellent Benjamin Goldfinch; Mr Fred Powell was excellent as Uncle Gregory; Miss Grace Richardson acted pleasingly as Mrs Goldfinch; and Miss Ruby Garman made an efficient Lucy Lorimer. Mr Lewis Willoughby and Mr F. Booth Conway took the respective parts of Percy and Dick. *A Kiss in the Dark* preceded the comedy. *Caste* and *The Money-Spinner* are also in the répertoire.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—The London musical farce company is presenting here this week *The Merry Mormon*. In the dual part of Lord Robert Gillon and his twin brother, the Hon. John Gillon, Mr Harry Kilburn is eminently satisfactory, and in no small degree contributes to the success of the piece; Tompson, a secretary, is satisfactorily taken by Mr J. H. Carson; the Earl of Winterby finds a capable exponent in Mr Thomas Kennard; a very amusing character is Maggie Mackay, excellently played by Miss Ruth Grosvenor; Lady Barbara Winterby is in the capable hands of Miss Millicent Pyne; Mrs Hooper is entrusted to Miss Rose Temple; and Mrs Pepperano, a widow, is capably sustained by Miss Kathleen Gerard. Mention must be made of the Two Gollywogs (Little Dora and Winnie Crisp), who give their Sunflower Sue and sailor dances, which are received with great applause.

CREWE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry Taylor.—Messrs L. Pagden and L. Gilbert have presented a sensational drama entitled *A Faithful Friend*. Mr J. W. Henson as John Tollerton, a Yorkshire millionaire, infuses much life and vigour into the part. Harold Sefton, the villain of the play, is portrayed with much power by Mr W. D. Fazan. Mr H. Francis gives an artistic representation of the Italian artist, Antonio Orsini. Mr A. Mills plays in an effective and gentlemanly manner as Harry Somerset; Sir Thomas Jones is humorously rendered by Mr Roy Byford; Miss Trissie Humphrys makes a lady-like and graceful Mildred Marsden; Mrs Edgar Colona is very suitably placed as Lady Thomas Jones; and Miss J. Colona is excellent as Cynthia, an artist's model. The minor parts are ably filled.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Manager, Mr George A. Brandram; Assistant-Manager, Mr Ernest A. Massingham.—The attraction at the Grand this week is Mr Walter Melville's excellent company, in the interesting play *Her Second Time on Earth*. Miss Hilda Beverley in the rôle of Dora Grey shows great histrionic abilities, and deserves unstinted praise for her realistic acting; Miss Polly Marsh scores a big success in the difficult part of Elizabeth Burke; and Miss Elaine Vanbrugh gives a sincere and natural rendering of Laura Norman. Mr Charles Franmore is in every way a satisfactory exponent of Captain Jasper Norman; Mr Cecil A. Melton is suitably placed in the character of Jack Carlton; Mr Eugene Santley is commendable as Guy Brand; and Mr Wilton J. Selby is adequate as Beppo. The smaller rôles are also carefully played, and the staging of the pieces leaves little to be desired.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr H. D. Lyle.—Mr William Bourne's company is here with *When Darkness Falls*. Miss Maud Buchanan wins favour as Helen Montrevor; Miss Clarrie Ash is vivacious as Jenny; Miss Amy Vennimore deserves a word as Mrs Woodruffe; and Misses Lydia Hart and Alys Eden are very good as Jim and Harry. Mr William Bourne submits a robust rendering of Captain Harold Montrevor; Mr Frank Liston is careful as the Rev. Arthur Graham; Mr Ellis J. Preston is rightly placed as James Woodruffe; Mr Will Clement creates amusement in the rôle of Mike Kavanah; and the cast is completed by Messrs Dan Osborne, Henry Hayes, and Herbert Willis as Inspector Digby, Willoughby, and Bertin.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—The bill-of-fare here is capital. The Two Graces are neat duettists and dancers; Charles Wittle's songs are worth hearing; the Two Romers sing to advantage; Hal Chapter is a droll vocalist; Bernard and Weston are a humorous pair; My Fancy's clever dancing is always appreciated; Harry Maxam, comedian, causes laughter; Ada Marjutti, the flexible Venus, submits an interesting turn; Wright and Lesta are quaint comedians; Dora Lyric, comedienne, is much liked; Zam proves to be a novel act; R. W. Bentley is a comedian of resource; and Marti and Julietta are well received.

DERBY.

NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr T. Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr C. Denley.—Mr John Cassidy's company is here once more with *Muldoon's Picnic*. The piece has been so often played locally that it will suffice to say that Mr Edwin Garth as Mulcahy, Mr W. G. Wesley as Dennis Muldoon, Mr Chas. Locke as Gussie Tearle, Miss Madge Cassidy as Kitty, Mr O. Birrell as Johnny O'Brien, Mr Elton Morgan as Juno Smith, Miss Florrie Mandeville as Ada M'Loughlin, with songs and dances, Mr Leo Whambouldt as Mrs Muldoon, and Little May as Coro are all good in their respective rôles.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Edwardes.—The programme is headed by Miss Florence Melrose's company in an amusing sketch *What Happened to Buttons*. Max Millan is another stellar turn, his achievements as an equilibrist being quite out of the common run. Other features of the programme comprise Percy Hannan, the boy baritone, who gets a first-rate reception; Wallau, a marvellous youthful juggler; Cribb and Cribb, who appear with success in an original burlesque *After the Ball*; Dan Kennedy, who is a capital comedian and dancer; Lily Turner, an agreeable vocalist; and Grieve, a capital ventriloquist and vocalist.

DEVONPORT.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owner, Mr A. Carlton; Manager, Mr Chas. Townsend.—That thrilling play *Saved from the Sea*, performed by Mr Vyner's company, is drawing crowded houses here this week. The part of the hero, a fisherman, is taken by Mr Leonard Robson, who is ably supported by Miss F. Russell Spiers in the rôle of the wife. Messrs Sydney C. Kearns, W. A. Attfield, and H. Cave all act in a very popular manner. Messrs St. M. Vernon and L. Gilbert and Miss D. Condor sustain the humorous element in capital style.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr J. Herbert Asquith.—*A Trip to Rum-Fum* company, under the management of Miss Cissie Moxon, is here this week. Mr Fred H. Grahame as Cecil Toft is full of genial humour; Mr Willie Garvey as Larry is clever; and very successful is Mr W. S. Hutchinson as Biddy. Miss Cissy Moxon is still a great favourite, and as Flossie Kixie wins honours. Miss Nellie Lauraine makes a hit with her song "Gold," and Miss Kittie Jones as Peggy uses a charming voice cleverly. The company is ably pioneered by Mr J. H. Lynch.

DONCASTER.

NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Councillor J. W. Chapman.—Messrs Haddon and Loader's company opened here on Monday in *The Greatest Scoundrel Living*. A vigorous delineation of Frank Fielding was submitted by Mr Norman A. Overton, and Mr Theo Balfour was an eminently successful Jasper Moulton. Mr Jack Haddon did well in the title-rôle; Mr George Herbert gave a good account of himself as Philip Astrea; as Tom Masters, a footman, Mr Jack Lannol is to be congratulated; and a modicum of praise is merited by Mr Bernard Dunstan, who depicted Sam Grubb, a rustic poet, and delighted the audience with some capital songs. Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam was captivating as Rosa Moulton; and Miss Beatrice Western gave valuable aid as Mabel Cross. Miss Lottie Pearce submitted a vivid portrayal of Bessie Bright, a housemaid, and in Miss Marguerite Thorne was found an able exponent of Mrs Deepdale.

DOUGLAS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Limited; Manager and Secretary, Mr C. Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Brittain.—Messrs Herbert Ralland and Walter Sealby entered on the second week of their season of London West-end comedies at this theatre on Monday night, and produced the old Vaudeville three-act farce, *Confusion*, with artistic success. Miss Christie Ralland made a delightful Rose Mumbleford; Miss Mabel Sealby was pleasing as Violet; Miss Ada Mavius made a diverting Maria; and the Lucretia Trickleby of Miss Julie St. George was a fine display of feminine low comedy. Mr Walter Sealby, who is responsible for the stage management of the production, invests Christopher Blizzard with unctuous humour. The Mortimer Mumbleford of Mr Chas B. Vaughan was conceived and carried out in the true vein of farce; Mr Langford Reed was all that could be desired as Rupert Sunberry; Mr George P. Ascott made a convincing Dr. Bartholomew Jones; Mr Fred Fowler was more than funny as James; and Mr Bertie Ralland did the little he was required to do as Muzzle with effectiveness. Mr Joseph Derrick's farce was preceded by the curtain-raiser *Our New Butler*, well interpreted by Miss Ada Marius, Miss Mabel Sealby, and Mr George P. Ascott.

DERBY CASTLE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Limited; Manager, Mr C. Fox.—This popular place of amusement disdains to close once Whit Monday dawns, and has drawn large audiences during the current week. The chief attraction is dancing to the music of the Derby Castle Band. The variety items are the clever comedian, Mr Walter Curtis, and the Northern Troupe of international dancers, who secure great applause.

Other attractions in Douglas are Buxton's Pierrots, Burton's Pierrots, and Dare's Minstrels.

DOVER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—*The Shaughraun* was presented here on Monday by Mr F. C. Dew's company. Mr Alfred Lester plays the title-role with a fine display of roguish humour, and a clever piece of acting is that contributed by Mr Frank Ross as Captain Molyneaux, his love scenes with Clare (Miss Jeannie Burgoyne) being one of the prettiest features of the play. Mr Ernest K. Nelson, who possesses fine elocutionary powers, gives a capable performance of Father Dolan; Robert Ffolliot finds a convincing exponent in Mr George R. Butt; Mr Claud Aymond is sufficiently crafty and unscrupulous as Cory Kinchela; and Harvey Duff is played with conspicuous ability by Mr Jack M'Kenzie. Miss Jeannie Burgoyne acts with her accustomed charm as Clare Ffolliot, and Miss Gwynne Stewart is girlishly bright as Arte O'Neill. A good character sketch of an Irish peasant is the work of Miss Bella Power, and Moya is played with the characteristic charm of the Irish by Miss Mildred Eversleigh.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore.—*Queen's Evidence* is staged here this week, and is played in a very efficient manner by the Arthurian company. Miss Sidney Crowe made a sympathetic Kate Medland, and gave a very fine interpretation; Mr Herbert Skardon as the unlucky booking-clerk held the sympathies of the audience; Mr Riddell Robinson earned the execrations of the gods in the villainous character of Matthew Thornton; Mr Augustus Wheatman made a crafty, cunning, and yet good-natured Jew. *Family Jars* is given prior to the production of the principal piece.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Lessees, Michael Gunn, Limited; General Manager, Mr Charles Hyland.—*Uncle Tom's Cabin* is being played here this week by Mr Charles Harrington's American combination. Mr J. Carr acts the part of Uncle Tom in a praiseworthy manner; Miss Zerlina Zerbina is most effective in the rôle of Cassy; Mr Chas. Harrington sustains the part of Phineas Fletcher in an able manner; Mr Fred Charles is successful as St. Clair; Mr W. Henry Hargreaves gives a creditable representation of George Harris; and Miss Ida Fane acts uncommonly well as Aunt Ophelia. Miss Emma Stewart as Emmaline and Miss Ethel Mildmay as Eliza Harris are both satisfactory, and Miss Hettie Hathaway is acceptable as Mrs St. Clair. As Legree Mr John Henry Rogers plays in capital style, and Miss Annie Watson is successful as Topsy.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. Armstrong.—Mr Thomas Thorne's company commenced a week's engagement on Monday in *Our Boys*. Mr Thos. Thorne in the character of Perkyn Middlewick has plenty of scope to display his abilities; Mr George Mudie, jun., is particularly good as Talbot Champneys; Miss Edith Hesketh as Belinda acts the part in a realistic manner; as Sir Geoffrey Champneys Mr Norman Clark is capital; and Mr Phillip Hewland gives a dignified representation of Charles Middlewick. Miss Stewart Innes makes an acceptable Violet; Miss Marie Dennett acts the part of Mary Melrose gracefully; and Miss Bessie Harrison acquits herself admirably as Clarissa Champneys. *A Silent Woman* precedes.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitbread; General Manager, Mr Kennedy Miller.—*The Shaughraun* is being played here this week to capital houses by Mr Kennedy Miller's company. Mr James O'Brien displays his usual abilities in the rôle of Conn; Mr Frank Breen gives a clever impersonation of Harvey Duff; the part of Corry Kinchella is well sustained by Mr Albert Sinclair; and Miss Daisy Russell gives a capital portrayal of Claire Ffolliott. Father Dolan has an able exponent in the person of Mr Dane Clarke; Arte O'Neale is admirably played by Miss Helene Forest; in the part of Mrs O'Kelly Mrs Glenville is as humorous as ever; and as Robert Ffolliott Mr Ian Ireland is excellent. Mr Fred Lloyd makes a capable Captain Molyneaux, and Miss Monica Kelly as Moya is all that can be desired.

EMPIRE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. S. Figgis.—Franco Piper, the celebrated banjoist, tops the bill here. Ross and Grayson, in their sketch *The Professor and the Pupil*, create much laughter; Victoria Monks is a good exponent of cake-walk and coon business; J. A. Wilson, the black oracle, is as successful as ever; and Gladys Mavius is well received. George Ripon displays his abilities capitally as a comedian; and Rich and Rich, eccentric comedians, score well; as do Les Durvals, horizontal bar persormers; and Guy Ryder, boy siffleur. The Empire pictures are up to date.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Chas. M. Jones; Secretary, Mr H. A. Murphy.—The principal item here this week is Astley's circus, which is brimful of fun. A special word of praise is due to Chinko for his clever juggling act; and Harry Walker, comedian, is a host in himself. The Bowery Boys are smart comedians and dancers, and R. C. Macgill is a capital character comedian. Edwards and Espinosa, speciality artistes, are an excellent turn; the Brooklands are pleasing comediennes and dancers; the Rushforths' illustrated songs are warmly applauded; and King Leo is a successful ventriloquist; the Tivoli bioscope gives a representation of "A Coster's Wedding," which is highly amusing.

DUDLEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr J. W. Tilley.—Miss Grace Warner and a good company are here this week with *The New Commander*. Miss Warner fills with artistic ability the part of Violet Flintheart, and Mr George Gordon is a distinct success as Lieutenant Harding, as is also Mr B. Crouch Jones as Lieutenant Tremingway. Mr St. B. Wyntour looks and plays the part of the Sultan admirably, and Mr J. P. Marsden as Matthew Flintheart and Mr Edward Mervyn as Tittums supply plenty of fun. Miss Polly Prim acts with charming abandon as Vivette, and displays some clever dancing and whistling. The Primrose Quartet of dancers are exceedingly clever.

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Prichard.—A good programme here is headed by the Three Delevines, who are exceedingly clever in a pantomimical, whimsical mélange; Nellie Lovell is a first-class male impersonator; Mdlle. Melita is a young and charming International dancer; Helen Martin is a good ballad vocalist; Mitzi is a clever juggler; and Hector and Lorraine are smart eccentrics. The Two Leons, duettists, and Steve Cooke, comedian, complete a good bill.

EASTBOURNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—Mr and Mrs Chalmers Mackey's company is staging here with excellent effect the favourite drama, *The Shaughraun*. Mr Chalmers Mackay as Conn fully maintains his high reputation as an Irish comedian, and his rich brogue and infectious humour are the life and soul of the play. Mr Reginald Garland is a polished and distinctive Captain Molyneux, Mr John Stuart is an excellent Robert Ffolliot, and Mr H. Sainsbury is an impressive Father Doolan. Mr Russell Bogue contributes a sound and effective performance as Kinchella, Mr Joseph Magrath is a capital Harvey Duff, and Mr Harry Mason is an able Sergeant Jones. Mrs Chalmers Mackey is bright and pleasant as Clare Ffolliot, Miss Nana Flenberg is full of life and fun as Moya, Miss Nellie Graham does well as Arte O'Neill, and Mrs O'Kelly is capably represented by Miss A. Liddon. The scenery must be given a word of praise.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—Mr Charles Frohman's company is appearing here in *Sherlock Holmes*. On Monday evening a large audience grew enthusiastic over the sensational adventures of the famous detective. Mr H. A Saintsbury as Sherlock Holmes scores a distinct and decided success, and he was called before the curtain for his excellent work. Another unqualified success was achieved by Mr Robert Forsyth in his clever characteristic work as Professor Moriarty. Much praise must be given to Mr Pelham Rayner for his smart work as Sydney Prince. Mr Ernest Ruston was a capable James Larrabee; and Mr F. Clive Ross was ably appropriate as John Forman. Master Charles Chaplin as Billy earned applause for his sharp, nimble work. The appearance and work of Miss Violet Lewas were eminently suited to the rôle of Madge Larrabee, and a conspicuous success must be written to her credit. Miss Lucie Milner was a quiet but effective Alice Faulkner; and Miss Katherine del Rey an animated Therese.

EDINBURGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Hollister.—Mr C. E. V. Russell's specially organised company has been appearing here this week in the new musical comedy *The Girl from Corsica*, which was witnessed on Monday by a highly appreciative audience. The piece was handsomely staged, the principals, who worked hard and successfully, being liberally applauded throughout. Mr Leicester Tunks gave an extremely artistic representation of the brigand chief, Maimoun, acting with effect and singing splendidly. Alexis was agreeably rendered by Mr Cyril Harcourt, who also sings well, while Mr Archie Selwyn played Lord Gilbert Poole capitally, Mr Arthur Linton also making a diverting appearance as the Hon. Augustus Devereux. Sam Spindle, the valet, afforded a fine opportunity for Mr Victor Stevens, who acted as freshly as ever, his quiet style and funny sayings creating plenty of laughter. Miss Nellie Grant was a lovely Lusamia, her impassioned singing of two effective ballads fairly bringing down the house. Miss Connie Leon scored a well-deserved success as Lily White, her singing and dancing being admirable, and her vivacious acting charming everybody. Miss Beatrice Poole was a bewitchingly attractive Muriel, and played the character, which is an important one, with a tenderness and feeling that soon secured the admiring interest of the house. Miss Maude Gwynne's Lady Deborah Poole was another excellent performance. Specialities were introduced by Miss Cissie Trent, and the singing and chic appearance of the Strollers and the lively dancing of the Clicqot Troupe gave complete satisfaction. Mr Albert Vernon conducted.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General Manager, Mr G. T. Minshall.—On Monday *A Snug Little Kingdom*—a play of singular excellence and full of interest—was presented at this theatre, under the direction of Mr George M. Barham. There was a well-pleased house, and the company, which is a strong and capable one, got a particularly hearty reception. Mr Stuart Lomath's Ben Kershaw was a great impersonation, wonderfully effective in the powerful prologue, and in the closing scene grandly pathetic. An actor of Mr Lomath's calibre is always welcome to Edinburgh. Mr Frank Harris was a bright and clever Hubert Grey, and Mr Harry Wren exhibited considerable ability as Bernard Grey. Miss Maud Marriott played first, with spirit and dignity the wife, Margaret Kershaw, and later on the daughter, Dolly, of which she gave an exquisitely charming embodiment. Miss Ellen Owen made quite a comic creation of Mrs Blower, and Miss Hetty Lane was equally amusing as Amelia, the slavey, her clever step dance being warmly encored. Sister Hope was successfully undertaken by Miss May Hayes and Miss Florence Perry appeared as Ellen.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss.—*The Fighting Parson* has been retained another week, to the satisfaction of patrons here, and, thanks to effective staging and the very admirable acting of Mr George Gray and his talented company, it has found high favour in the North. Lind, a female impersonator of decided cleverness, appeared on Monday, and pleased with his dancing; and Mr Harry Ford, the popular comedian, has returned with a capital budget of humorous songs, eliciting loud applause nightly. Miss Rosie Lloyd, a charming comedienne, found much favour; and Francis and Melli, musical grotesques, were also well received. The fascinating burlesque actress and vocalist, Miss Alexandra Dagmar, reappeared and made her accustomed impression; and Mr E. J. Sheldon, comedian; and Misses Ada Martine, comedienne; Alma Mary, danseuse; and Ethel Ra Leslie, character vocalist, complete the company.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—Mr R. C. Davie's company is here this week with the musical comedy drama *No Escape*, which drew a first-rate audience on Monday. The entertainment proved a diversified one, and there were special turns given by a quartet of dancers whose coon and cake-walk dancing was heartily applauded. Mr Davis led the cast as Police-constable O'Grady, and excellent support was given by the company.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Fred Pollard; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy M. Dunsford.—This week we have a return visit of the D'Oyle Carte opera company. On Monday *The Pirates of Penzance* was performed to a good house, the opera being well staged, the chorus strong, and the principals all effective. The rôle of Major-General Stanley was admirably sustained by Mr G. Villiers Arnold, the Sergeant of Police was presented by Mr Fred Billington in his well-known clever style, and Mr Pacie Ripple was a capital exponent of Frederick. The Pirate King and his lieutenant were done full justice to by Mr Frank Wilson and Mr Alfred Butler. Ruth was portrayed with skill and effect by Miss Theresa Rassam, Miss Norah Maguire sang excellently and acted with distinction as Mabel, and General Stanley's other daughters were well played by Mesdames J. Rose, A. Royston, and N. Freyne. *The Pirates* is preceded by that excellent little operetta *Bob*, in which the characters are ably sustained by Miss J. Rose, Miss M. Burnege, Mr S. Moss, and Mr G. Villiers Arnold. Mr P. W. Halton conducted the augmented orchestra with his accustomed skill. The répertoire for the week includes *Mikado*, *Gondoliers*, *Yeomen of the Guard*, and *Iolanthe*.

FARNWORTH.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell.—We have a visit this week from Messrs Mitchell and Belton's *The Conscript* company. Mr George Mitchell gives a good rendering of the part of Karl Truevitch; Mr Fred H. Constable plays with power as Count Hardiski; Mr Frank Lilliput is successful as Tretch Trotoff; Mr Walter Steel acquits himself well as Ivan Manloff; and Mr John Belton as Dr. Doggervitch and Mr Leonard Duerdon as Maxine Fedka give excellent delineations of their respective characters. Miss Mary Dawson plays with power as Nadia Truevitch; Miss Ivy Chandos is all that can be desired as Wanda; Miss Maud Banford is good as Dame Katinka; Miss Elizabeth Doone gives an excellent portrayal of Catherine Silka; and Little Elsie Boston ably fills the juvenile character of Little Karl.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland.—Mr F. H. De Quincey and Miss Sime Seruya, by arrangement with Mr Charles Frohman, were here the first three nights of the week in the Italian play, *The Twin Sister*. Mr F. H. De Quincey as Count Orlando proved an actor of great ability; Mr Stewart Willson gave a good rendering of the part of Count Parabosco; Mr Roy Milton as Valla was well placed; Mr John Paley was successful as Lelio. Miss Sime Seruya was a charming Lisa; Little Doris Freeman deserves much praise for her portrayal of Sandro; and Miss Lydia Busch ably filled the somewhat difficult rôle of Guiditta.

VICTORIA PIER.—Lessees, Messrs Keith Prowse and Co., Limited; General Manager, Mr H. De Manche; Resident-Manager, Mr C. Leybourne.—The artistes engaged here this week include Nelson Hardy, who gives a clever ventriloquial turn; Miss Mabel Knott, contralto, and Mr J. D. M'Lean, tenor, are great favourites. The Red Viennese Band plays charming selections at intervals.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr H. M. Schulz.—Miss Eva Routledge, contralto, sings well; Mr F. T. Studd is a really good magician, and also introduces a few ventriloquial touches. The Ladies Blue Salon Band and the Animated Pictures are also entertaining.

GAINSBOROUGH.

ALBERT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robt. Kirk.—Mr Hy. Johnston's company, under the management of Mr Thos. Barry, appeared here for three nights last week in the musical comedy of *The Houp-La Girl*. Mr Geo. Sheldon gave an amusing representation of Lieutenant Lambton; Major Davenport was well played by Mr Eric Dalvere; Miss Evelyn Hughes was a piquante Houp-La Girl; Misses Maggie Fraser and Edith Haley contributed some pleasing songs and dances as Isobel and Dick; and Miss Edith Rowland was an effective Duchess. The other characters were capably played by Messrs Herbert Shaw, Jack Durant, Geo. J. Hart, &c, and Misses F. Horner and Mary Palmer. The orchestra was under the direction of the composer, Mr Antonius Baker. This week Messrs Richards and Parr opened a stock season with *The Octoroon* and *Streets of London*.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr H. Hopkins.—Messrs Carson and Granville's fascinating drama, *The Heart of a Hero*, is having a successful run here this week. The chief male rôle, Jem Resdale, is successfully sustained by Mr F. W. Goddard, and Mr Chas. E. Johnson makes a first-rate Wilfred Marl. In the character of Timothy Heighno Mr Allen Carruthers scores a distinct success, and as Jack Collinson Mr G. B. Wright acts capitally. Mr P. G. Beresford gives a first-rate delineation of Dave Prichard. Miss Cissie St. Elmo makes a hit in the principal female rôle, Nell Resdale. Miss Laurie Pardy is a first-rate May Ryder. As Susie Slack Miss Ida Mackay gets the utmost out of the humorous character.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Bolam and Bacon; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Smith.—The Royal Tokio Troupe of acrobatic Japs provide an exceptionally clever turn at this variety playhouse, which has been well filled throughout the week. The strong bill is contributed to by James Kurry, comedian; Vera Mayne, burlesque actress; Flo Melville, burlesque actress; Mons. Henri, equilibrist and gymnastic performer; Kavados, juggler and cannon-ball operator; and the Stuart Quartet of lady vocalists and dancers.

GLASGOW.

ROYALTY, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr H. Macfarlane.—*Tom, Dick, and Harry* is being presented here by Mr Kendal Chalmers' company. General Stanhope is ably portrayed by Mr C. Wordley Hulse, and the parts of Tom, Dick, and Harry are fittingly presented by Messrs Phil Harper, Ivan Gore, and Guy P. Ellis. Mr Arthur Thomas is expert as Wigson. As Matthew and Oliver Messrs Lionel Rouch and James Lewis are good. A pleasing dramatic sketch entitled *A Terrible Revenge*, in which Messrs Harper and Ellis and Miss Blake-Adams take leading parts, precedes the comedy.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Humphrys.—The season at this house closes with the engagement of Mr Russell Rosse's company, in *A Marriage of Convenience*. As the Comte De Candale Mr W. Lawson-Butt is admirable, his rich voice and easy bearing being of great advantage. Miss Muriel Godfrey-Turner is a delightful Comtesse De Candale, possessing both beauty and personal charm, and as Marton Miss Sybil Ruskin gives able support. The Chevalier De Valois of Mr Ernest Shallard has all the humour and airiness the part demands, and makes a strong contrast to Mr C. Story-Gofton's striking portrait of the old General. As Jasmin Mr Clive Currie is clever, and Mr Escott Robson is good as the Officer, smaller parts being ably filled by Messrs Clarance Pelham, A. C. Bute, and Donald Gow.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr Hugh Murdoch.—Messrs J. A. Campbell and G. Fulton's company is here with *A Bid for Fortune*. Miss Rosa Mervyn as Barbara acts with extreme tenderness, and Miss Olive Fulton as Agnes Netherley gives a spirited rendering. Miss Jenny Bostock as the elderly widow is very amusing. Little Florrie plays Eric nicely, showing much intelligence. Mr Dick Thomas as Cobb Cuttle sings several songs nicely, and he is ably assisted by Mr C. Williams as Nat Goldberry. Mr Arthur Mervyn as the old English gentleman acts with quiet dignity, and Kent Hickett is ably embodied by Mr Richard Fulton, Mr George Child successfully doubling the rôles of Sir Milton and Desmond Netherley.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Wilson.—For the concluding week of the season Mr J. Rice Cassidy and his company are appearing here in *Dan the Rake*. Excellent houses are being drawn, and the humour of Mr Cassidy as Dan, Miss Lillian Clare as Madge, and Mr Norman Hall as a French cook keep the audience in the best of spirits. Miss Ana Roscoe acts most effectively the dual-parts of Delphine and Mrs Dunraven. Miss Florence Halton makes a sympathetic heroine as Helen. Mr Frank Orchard displays power as Colonel Flamer. The designing French officer, Morat, is well acted by Mr Charles H. Phelps. Mr Frank Copeland is a manly Captain Kavanagh. The High Priest is acted in impressive style by Mr Edwin Chandler. Mr Stephen Crossley gives a vigorous rendering of Nurka, a Deoit. The play is mounted with excellent effect.

METROPOLE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry W. Day.—The attraction here this week is Mr and Mrs Fred Benton's company in *A Marriage of Vengeance*. Miss A. Harrison-Tate (Mrs Fred Benton) is seen to great advantage as Stella Burgon, and Mr Fred Benton is equally successful as Glynne Earnscliffe. The other principal parts were all capitally rendered, notably that of Paul Earnscliffe by Mr Stanley Carlton, and excellent support was given by Messrs Clifton Boyne and Charles Alton and by Miss Cicely Clutterbuck.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr H E Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr W. H. Howard; Assistant Manager, Mr Geo. Anthony.—Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts are giving here their smart sketch *The Infant*, into which they introduce some very clever dancing. Marie Kendall takes well with her popular "Ivy" song; Newhouse and Ward supply a da ing cycle turn; Horace Wheatley's new songs are going well; Ike Scott and Son give thier military duet with much humour; Pueblo Brothers are two neat sand dancers; the Sisters Dacre sing a clever quick-change duet; the Dorells are attractive dancers. Three Ramoniers, in their ladder act; the New Macs, as knockabout comedians; Jessie Albini, serio; and Steve M'Carthy, comedian, also contribute ably.

TIVOLI AND QUEEN'S, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs T. J. Colquhoun and B. M. Armstrong.—The *Sultan of Ranogoo* company is here for another week, and Messrs J. Humphries, G. Hester, E. W. Avery, J. G. Fox, James Carson, Miss Amy Lorrison, Miss Mary Hay, Miss Mary Hargreaves repeat their old successes. A laughable comedy sketch, entitled *An Indian Honeymoon*, is admirably played. A popular turn is that of Billy Hobbs, coon singer and dancer. Belle Braham, picture songstress; Lanos and Montes; Wellie Turnbull, weight lifting; Cambo, musical speciality; the Pattinsons, drawing-room entertainment; and J. H. M'Farlane, Scotch comedian, are also engaged. The musical sketch *Under the Bamboo Tree* is sung in fine style by Mr J. B. Fox, Miss Amy Lorrison, and a chorus of thirty. The Allertons, the Macdonald troupe of dancers, and Bendon's Bioscope complete the company.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and Thos. Barrasford.—The Imperial Boys' Orchestra give some fine selections, varied by a hornpipe, a flute duet, and a well-rendered song. The Max Trevally-Harley Troupe display considerable skill in head and hand balancing and in a spring board act. The Five Whiteleys contribute a cleverly varied wire walking, acrobatic, and musical turn. The Ladderites show some wonderful feats on the ladders. Three Zaracs give an amusing horizontal bar display. Doody and Wright take well in their eccentric American duo. Martinoz, La, and Do, the Parisian street singers, are heartily applauded. The Sisters Petram, with their marionette theatre, give a clever turn. Billy Williams, Australian comedian, and Harry Barker, character vocalist, contribute "catchy" items. An extremely good act is that of the Goldini Trio, acrobats and "carpet spinners."

PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs Rich Waldon and Thos. Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr David Douglas.—Albertine Melich with her wonderfully trained cockatoos and parrots is applauded here. The Andersons' novelty dancing on the one rope evokes laughter; Will Godwin is well received; and Downes and Langford are as good as ever. The Three Seldonis, model athletic statue artistes, earn applause, and other members of the company are Fred Curran, comedian; Corty Brothers, bar act and burlesque wrestlers; Bert Byrne, comedian; and Lucia and Viata, lady wire artists.

GLOUCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr W. H. Weller.—Mr Joseph Poole's Myriorama is in its second week, and business continues phenomenal for the time of year. The cinématograph shows pictures of the opening ceremony of the Gloucester electric tramways, and the Russo-Jap war is a leading feature of the myriorama. The variety artistes engaged this week are Mr Felix De Marco's animal act; the marvellous Saletos, Continental gymnasts; Miss May Finch, vocalist; La Petite Elsie and Edgar, tight-wire experts; Mdlle. Orbasany with troupe of trained cockatoos; the Veronas, lady dancers; Felix Somers, facial king; and Mr Nat Abbatt, guide and elocutionist.

GREAT GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr S. Tolfree.—*The Midnight Mail* is appearing here this week for the first time, played by Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company. Mr George Harvard gives a forceful representation of the engine driver, Harry Steyne; and as Mary Steyne, his wife, Miss Ada Oakley is quite equal to the demands of the part. Mr Charles Carte is by turns amusing and impressive as Billy Brewer. Miss Doris Brookes is a charming Lady Phyllis Eustace, and Miss Mildred Carr gives a delightfully fresh representation of Nancy Brewer. Good work is also done by Mr Lawrence Layton as Leonard Royle, Mr Alec Alves as Hassan Padisha, and Mr Charles M'Cann as Donald Craig.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr T. Edwardes; Manager, Mr H. F. Miller.—Ergotti and King Luis have supplied the most attractive turn this week. They are acrobatic and Risley performers, and introduce some specialities in the way of throwing somersaults. Mons. De Lil has shown some smart illusions and card tricks. Prof. Hulbert, ventriloquist, has caused much amusement with his life-size figures, Mentos has displayed novelties in trick mandoline playing. Nellie Atherton, soprano vocalist, has given satisfaction. Other turns have been Selby and Myers, comedians and dancers, and Herbert Bernard, comedian, whilst a display of animated photos of the Russo-Japanese war completes the programme.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W. Nightingale.—*The Tyranny of Tears*, exceptionally well played, is drawing large audiences this week. As Clement Parbury, Mr Harold V. Neilson successfully portrays the distracted husband; Mr W. Lemmon Warde acts with quiet but telling effect the rôle of George Gunning; Mr John Detliv is excellent as Col. Armitage; Evans is capitally represented by Mr C. M. Doyle; Miss Eva Clements is charming as Hyancinth Woodwood; Miss Amy Sangster is natural and effective as the tearful Mrs Parbury.

GREENOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Executors of the late Mr Alex. Wright; Managers, Messrs A. B. Wright and J. J. Wright.—Mr Charles Steuart's company is playing to good houses here this week the farcical comedy *Our Flat*. Mr J. J. Dallas is exceedingly funny as Nathaniel Glover. Mr Fred Knight is convincing as Mr M'Callum, and Mr Clayton Greene enacts Clarence Vane in a way that leaves nothing to be desired. A capital piece of acting is that of Mr Chas. Steuart (Reginald Sylvester), his easy and natural manner on the stage being most enjoyable. Pinchard finds a capable exponent in Mr Kaye Brudell, and Mr George Courtney does well as Stout. Miss Annie Chippendale is a graceful and attractive Margery Sylvester; Miss Edith Stuart a general favourite as Lucy M'Callum; Miss Mary Stuart fills the part of Madame Volant satisfactorily; Miss Jessica Black is good as Clara Pryout; and Miss Louie Tinsley as Bella keeps the audience thoroughly amused. The curtain-raiser is *The Water Cure*, in which Mr Charles Steuart and Miss Jessica Black appear.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees, the Greenock Empire Theatre of Varieties Syndicate; Manager for Mr Anderson, Mr H. Hemprey.—Talberto and Douglas are very amusing. Teviotdale, Herculean wonder, is astonishing, and other artists engaged are Miss Flo Leoville, conjuror; Frank Zara, American comedian; Brothers Costello, acrobats; Simple Simon, with his comedy act; Jack Capple, an expert dancer, and the Sisters Burgess, comediennes

HARTLEPOOL.

EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr Harry Burns.—"Australia's operatic vocalists," the Sisters Llewellyn, are received nightly with unbounded applause in duets and solos; Vandinoff, the lightning oil colour painter, is especially good in his feat of painting five panels in sixteen minutes; J. H. M'Cann does a novel dance on roller skates that is highly appreciated; the Padleys (Violet and Harry) do a most appreciative turn, the dancing of the latter being exceptionally neat; Leonard Gale, descriptive vocalist; Amy Elcock, comedienne, and Florrie St. Roy, comedienne and dancer, please in their respective turns; Nelson and Thomas, in a sketch *On the Ra-Ta*, are funny, and receive much applause; the Dunvilles, old favourites, are deservedly encored for their musical act; and Burns's Bioscope, with some new films, goes as well as ever.

PROMENADE. — Grapho and Jackson's Merry Mascots, who have already completed two successful seasons, have commenced business again with every promise of a successful run. The list of artistes consists of Dora Gray, soprano; Maisie Gray, serio; Harry Corner, humourist; Herbert Grapho, versatile comedian; Dan Hardie, comedian; Tom Gilmore, pianist; and Frank Frazer, baritone. The programme is replete with new songs, wheezes, and patter, and is thoroughly appreciated by a good ly assembly daily. The inaugural performance was given in the Town Hall, and was for the benefit of the Children's Ward of the Hartlepool Hospital.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr G. H. Gaze.—This week *A Man of Honour* is being played here by Miss Muriel Wylford's company. Mr Frank H. Denton as Basil Kent and Miss Lindsay Fincham as Jenny Bush deeply impress their audience. Excellent character contrasts are afforded respectively by Mr Willie Collard as the caddish James Bush, Mr H. Hampson as the happily married John Halliwell, Mr E. Beresford as the egoistic Robert Brackley, and Miss Helena Walbran as the refined and wealthy Hilda Murray.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr J. D. Hunter.—*The Ring that Binds* is attracting good audiences here this week. Mr W. Ruddle Brown as the young Doctor takes the part admirably; Mr S. John Beecher gives a fine characterisation of the forger; Mr A. Machersey throws a great fund of humour into the part of Pitt, the journalist. A fine example of dignity is Mr Maltby Harle as Colonel Beverly. Jack Beverly is sweetly represented by the juvenile Marie Dowsing; Miss Patsy Trounsell is a natural exponent of Sarana; Miss Nellie Howitt gives a charming rendering of Mona Beverly; and the Hon. Mrs Richards is successfully depicted by Miss Constance Dring; Miss Biddy Lamb acts throughout with animation.

ST. LEONARDS PIER PAVILION.—Local Manager, Mr Elvey Thomas; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—The Elgin Part Singers are holding the boards here this week. These four artists possess voices of no common order, and they include Messrs Fred Temple, Charles J. Murton, Paul Galois, and Theo. Hulm. They are augmented by Miss Nellie Taner, a soprano, and some amusing stage business is furnished by Mr Roland Henry and Miss Maple Riversdale.

HALIFAX.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—The Selbini Troupe of acrobats and trick cyclists are very accomplished and daring in their performance; Shawlene, mimic and whistler, is very well received; the Five M.I.'s (Mounted Infantry) do an interesting musical episode, their singing being particularly good; Harry Coates sings his songs to the obvious delight of his hearers; the Three Cape Girls are exceedingly smart dancers; the Fitzroys do a graceful trapeze act; Sidney Lee is a smart conjuror, his tricks being performed with marvellous quickness and finish; Mdlle. Leola does a good juggling act; and the programme is completed by the vocal efforts of a local comedian—J. W. Crossley, who is very well received.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Steuart Cecil.—Miss Carlotta Levey wins all hearts by her thoroughly artistic rendering of her songs; Captain Woodward's seals go through a wonderful performance, playing musical instruments, balancing, juggling, &c., with much intelligence and precision; Les Uniques do a neat acrobatic and ladder act; and a generally enjoyable programme is contributed to by Terry and Lambert, vocalists and duettists; Condon and Preston, comedians and dancers; Tom Le May, musical grotesque; Ernie Mayne, a droll comedian; Sisters Bosanquet, vocalists; and Davis and Davis, vocalists and dancers.

HANLEY.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr James Wynes.—The Royal closed last week for renovation, and drama now reigns at the Grand. *Judy* is being presented, and is well acted. The title-rôle is admirably sustained by Miss Neil, whose impersonation is particularly good. Mr Geo. Kirk in the character of Grip plays with wonderful effect and skill. Mr Carlton Wallace is seen to advantage as the villain, Duburg. Jim finds a clever exponent in Mr Will Brereton. Mr Fred May is well placed as the Showman. Miss Muriel Thompson is good as Blake, and Miss M. Monkhouse is smart in her respective part.

HEBBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. A. Jackson.—Monday night being the last performance of the season here, Mr W. A. Jackson took a well-deserved benefit. The following artists appeared before a well-packed house:—Wee Mona, with songs and dances, was excellent; Adam Tomlinson, Tyneside comedian, was welcomed with great enthusiasm; Mr J. M'Elvogue was also warmly welcomed; and Dr. Deighton contributed by relating a few incidents on his great walk from Land's End to John O'Groates. The Hebburn amateur dramatic company gave a striking scene from *Rob Roy*, and selections were also rendered by the prize band of this district. Other artists were Doyle and Gibson, Alf Thomas, William Mather, Fred Cohen, Mr Ben Jones, and Herr Dobler. The augmented orchestra was under the direction of Mr H. Thomas.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bole and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur.—Mr John Leopold's No. 1 company is here for the week with the well-known and popular medley entitled *Frivolity*. The merry piece is kept well up to date by the interpolation of the latest in comedy and successful songs. The acrobatic portion is as entertaining as ever, contributed as it is by the clever Leopold Family and the Brothers Valls, who show great agility in their somersault business on a spring table. Miss Amy Hall, who is a merry Lucy, is associated in a clever coon song and dance with Mr John Leopold, jun. Mr John Gerant as Old Buckwheat, Mr Tony Leopold as Professor Fumble, and Miss Ruby Wyndham as Madame Cobweb add considerably to the general hilarity.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Acting-Manager, Mr N. M. Robinson.—At the top of the bill are Les Perez, a trio of great daring in their work on the unsupported ladder. Other turns are contributed by Harry Lawson, comedian; Albert Darnley, light character vocalist; Miss Marie Wilton, an attractive comedienne; the Debreans, clever jugglers and highly amusing shadowgraph artists; Little Maud, a youngster with a sweet voice and pretty style; the Lindon Vaudevilles, a quartet of above the average in vocal excellence, in their novelty entitled "St. Anthony"; and good representations of the recent motor trials on the Anglo-Bio-Tableaux.

HULL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr W. Morton; Resident Director, Mr W. F. Morton.—The attraction this week, and one that is, despite the fine outdoor weather, filling the house, is that of *Rip Van Winkle*. The company engaged in its representation is that of Mr Fred Storey. All that could be done in the way of adequate staging and mounting has been done. In the name part Mr Storey gives a delightful performance with many subtle touches.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr John Hart; Local Manager, Mr Hay Esden.—The summer season opened on Monday at popular prices, with Mr Sanderson Moffat's company, in *A Woman Adrift*. A large audience was present to inaugurate the new system of cheap prices.

PALACE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Local Manager, Mr A. Graham.—Eugene Stratton is always sure of a big reception in Hull. His songs, as only Mr Stratton can sing them, have been nightly received with rapturous applause. In *Nonsuited* Mr Mark Melford has every opportunity to shine. Flo D'Orville is a clever comedienne.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Sole Owner, Mr W. Morton; Manager, Mr Geo. Morton.—The play that is holding the boards this week is one of the ultra-sensational type, *A Voice from the Grave*, the audience evidently appreciating the fare provided, the play being received with much applause.

ALHAMBRA.—Resident Manager, Mr C. J. Bartleet Perry.—Topping the bill are Cona and Conrad in an original act; the Five Foys make a big hit in *The Yorkshireman in London*; Rex Fox is a very smart wire-walker; the Sisters Navette are a clever turn; and other artistes include Jas. Dubois, Jack Pleasants, and the Three Prestons.

ILKESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr L. F. A. Rogers.—The management has this week provided a decided change in the form of Ediscope and Barnum's electric animated pictures, supported by a numerous company of star variety artistes, amongst whom may be mentioned Poole and Poole, refined comedy duettists; Will Ivor, the renowned American high stilt performer; Pulo, the clever boy juggler, from the Hippodrome; Clown Ohmy and his dog; Miss Florrie Brooklyn, top-boot dancer; the Singing Lancashire Mill Hand; T. E. Moet, the acrobatic madman; Lily Martel, dancer; Carl Osmund, the lightning tramp cartoonist; Musical Corlettie; and the Three Funnyossities, in an eccentric sketch.

POPLAR PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Jabez Barber.—The new show includes Miss Nellie Clark, up-to-date serio; J. C. Taylor, comedian; Alice Campbell, dainty singer of dainty ditties; Mr Bob Gardner, as before; and Chump and Chant, vocal specialists.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr Joe Richards.—Clara Gale, male impersonator; Mona May, serio and balladist; Mr Ezra Read's band; Vancie, the dainty comedienne and dancer; and the Majestics (Phil and Alice) are the bright particular stars

Marsh is quite at home in the part of George Bainbridge. Mr Wilson Howard makes the most of the unthankful rôle of James Horton. Mr H. C. Robinson is well placed as Henry Rutledge. Mr F. J. Little does full justice to the character of Jasper, and is ably assisted by Mr Will Bass as Pat Cahill. Miss Nellie Moore gives a most lifelike portrayal of Jess Bainbridge, and Miss Bertha St. Ruth is charming as Doris Rutledge. Miss C. Anson submits a powerful rendering of Marie Bergerre. Some excellent specialities are also introduced by various members of the company, which includes Messrs Bass and Guinness, song and dance artistes; Mr Billy Harman, eccentric comedian and dancer; Mr Fred J. Little, the popular Negro comedian, in a musical mélange.

KETTERING.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Payne.—This week we are favoured with a visit by the Elster-Grime opera company. The ever-popular *Maritana* was produced on Monday, with Miss Marie Elster in the title-rôle, and her acting and singing was immensely appreciated. Miss Gilbert was a distinct success as Lazarillo, and was vociferously encored for her fine rendering of "Alas! those chimes." The Don Cæsar of Mr Hargrave was a talented performance, his vocal abilities being considerably above the average. Mr Michael Kemble was a most efficient Don José, and Mr G. Partridge was deserving of praise as the King of Spain. The Marquis and Marchioness were very capably impersonated by Mr M. Simmons and Miss Quilliam. The remaining characters and the chorus were efficient. On Tuesday *Faust* was presented, with Miss F. Laborde as Marguerite and Mr Gilbert King as Mephistopheles. The rest of the week was occupied with *Carmen*, *Satanella*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, and *The Bohemian Girl*.

LEAMINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons, Limited; Lessee, Mr Henry Dundas; Manager, Mr C. E. Scutt.—Mr Frank Curzon's company in *Glittering Gloria* is providing fun galore for Leamington theatre-goers this week. The company is of all-round excellence, and among those who distinguished themselves are Mr John Campbell as James, Mr Campnez as Toddleby, Miss Edith Stanley in the title part, and Onions, the bulldog.

CORPORATION MUSIC SEASON—The municipal orchestra is supported this week by one of Messrs Adeler and Sutton's excellent troupes of pierrots, including Whit Cunliffe, the clever mimic and comedian; Erroll Stanhope, siffleuse and comedienne; Maynard Dakin, comedian; William Morgan, tenor, and Gordon Stamford, pianist.

LEEDS.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr Fredk. Vincent.—A revival of Mr Wilson Barrett's version of *East Lynne* is being presented here by Mr H. Armitage's company. Miss Bessie Rignold in the part of Lady Isabel is responsible for fine emotional acting. Mr Percy Foster's interpretation of Francis Levison is an admirable one, and Mr William F. Grant as Archibald Carlyle gives a faithful embodiment of that familiar character. P.C. Bullock is presented by Mr Edward Rochelle with brilliant success. Miss F. Olive gives a charming portrayal of Cornelia Carlyle; the part of Justice Hare is a capital effort by Mr Paul Belmore; Lord Mountsevern is ably represented by Mr Geo. Spencer, and other notable successes are Mr Arnold Palmer and Mr Geo. Belmore.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr R. Ernest Liston.—Strong dramatic fare is again provided for the Royal patrons, this week's attraction being entitled *Her One Great Sin*, a play full of startling incidents and thrilling situations. Grace Warhurst, an erring wife, is a part presented with conspicuous ability by Miss Blanche St. Albans; Mr J. Leicester Jackson is prominent with a capital portrayal of Arnold Thornhill; Mr Sam Arthur is a manly and convincing Reuben Warhurst; and the inevitable comedy parts are cleverly played by Mr Fred Hodson and Miss Louie Walton.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Chas. Bush.—Mr John Tully's company is responsible for a realistic performance of that old favourite, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, at this popular theatre, and the piece has attracted good patronage. Mr Kora Deanrajah acts the part of Uncle Tom with considerable power; Mr Cecil Pierpoint is decidedly effective as Phineas Fletcher; and the villainous schemes of Mr Shelly and Simon Legree are ably carried out by Mr James Palmer and Mr Fred G. Kay. Mr Edward Aldworth plays the part of the slave, George Harris, in popular style, and Little Marie and Miss Kitty Wood faithfully present their respective parts.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Resident Manager, Mr T. Gerald Morton.—Marie Loftus is received here with great enthusiasm. No less cordial is the welcome accorded Lelia Roze, also an immense favourite here. Of comedians there are two of the best, Edwin Barwick and Edwin Boyde, each thoroughly entertaining in his own particular style. A wonderfully expert exhibition of gymnastics is given by the Barowsky Trio, the juvenile member of the party being a prodigy. The Jackson Family presents a talented musical turn. The Brothers Egbert again submit their acrobatic speciality with great success, and we are further entertained by Maud Courtney, a charming singer of American ditties; Captain Slingsby, ventriloquist; Bessie Lind, comedienne; and Clown Ferreros, with a musical novelty.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Managers, Mr Edgar O. Waller and Mr Chas. Weldon.—The chief attraction at Mr Barrasford's popular house is John Tiller's company, with the rollicking musical comedy, *The Buffalo Bill Girl*, a tuneful and amusing playlet, which proves very popular. There is also an interesting exhibition of Lockhart's famed troupe of elephants; Weiland, the great comedy juggler, represents his comical show with huge success; the Bios. Harrison, comedians and dancers, do a smart turn; and Ella Rose, ballad vocalist; and Thos. E. Finglas, character Negro vocalist, complete a strong programme.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Jones.—Mr John Lawson opened here on Monday to crowded houses with his sensational Zionist episode *The Shield of David*, and the presentation of this and later in the week *Sally in Our Alley* has aroused considerable interest. The rest of the programme is good, including Frank Coyle, a popular comedian; the Four M.P.'s in their well-known clever musical show; the Sisters Terry, vocalists, who find great favour; Harry Anderson, vocal comedian; D. L. Verrin, in a comedy act; Daisy Palmer, comedienne; and Winnie Derson, comedienne.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Business-Manager, Mr George M. Slater.—The boards are held this week by Mr H. Armitage's company, who are presenting the original Heath-Wilson Barrett version of *East Lynne*, lately revised and rewritten by Mr Barrett. The play, which proves as interesting as ever, is well staged, and the company engaged do justice to their respective parts. Miss Haidée Wright as Lady Isabel plays with a dramatic power deserving of the highest praise. Mr Edmund F. Kennedy is an excellent Archibald Carlyle, and as Francis Levison Mr Cecil Elgar is equally praiseworthy. Mr Stanley Harrison is very good as Richard Hare. Miss Ida Thompson should be specially mentioned for her clever portrayal of the part of Willie.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal.—The Gothams, in their new musical absurdity, entitled *Miss Green*, are at the head of affairs this week, and well maintain their popularity. At the other end is Frank and Jen Latona, whose delightful speciality *The Musical Slavey* is cordially received. W. J. Churchill is a comedian of great versatility, and his visits here are always sure of a hearty welcome. Freda Spry and B. S. Monti give a clever and original turn; the Three Albions, in their musical fantasia, *All in a Garden Fair*, score a success; La Belle Nello is a skilled and charming lady contortionist; Amber Austa is both a clever and dainty coon singer and dancer. Other excellent turns are contributed by Ernest Heathcote, comedian; Charles Stevens, character vocalist; and Dave O'Toole, comedian.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—The premier position here is held by Mr J. K. Reynolds and company, in the sensational episode *Conscience*, which keeps the attention of the audience riveted. At the conclusion Mr J. K. Reynolds, Miss Adele Rheade, and Mr Sidney Freebar, who are conspicuously successful in their respective parts, are enthusiastically recalled. The other artists in a good programme include Frank Ashby, a really clever male soprano; Charles Russell, a successful character vocalist; the Sisters Cora, chic duettists and dancers; Harry Zetter, comedian and legmania artist; Tiny Reiff, comedienne; Leo Montague, comedian and dancer; and Varley and Sinclair, duettists and soloists.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—A good variety company is engaged this week. Mr Fred Karno's *His Majesty's Guests* heads the bill. Mr Ainslie Burton is very amusing as Sergeant Lightning, Mr George Hudson is capital as Lord Easem, Mr Miffin is in the capable hands of Mr George Craig, Mr Henry Stuart is excellent as Mr Minks, and Mr M. Johnson as Fritz is well placed. Miss Cora Duncan looks charming as Lady Maud Easem, her acting and singing being greatly appreciated; Miss Madge Campbell is pleasing as Dolly, and as Miss Manley Miss Daisy Milton is all that can be desired. Miss Lillie Jackson, male impersonator, is greatly applauded; Mr Mark Lane, eccentric comedian, is most amusing; Saxo, the musical marvel, is an excellent turn; and Miss Effie Northern, speciality dancer, is very graceful.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. H. Dunlop.—A strong bill here is headed by the Finneys (James and Marie), champion swimmers of the world, who give a marvellous tank performance. The Two Eltons, on the horizontal bars, are exceedingly clever; Miss Kate Earle is a pleasing vocalist; the Bendons are greatly admired; the Marbleus Troupe is good in a statuary act; Mr Bill Bailey, comedian, is applauded; and Mexican Mac, sharpshooter, and Mr Harry Osmond, musical comedian, are well received.

LINCOLN.

ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Frank King.—*What Became of Miss Rackit* is paying a first visit here, and is interpreted by Mr Charles R. Stone's company. Miss Edith Madelle as Miss Racket sustains the rôle capitally and sings attractively into the bargain. Miss E. Kelsey is very amusing as the elderly Miss Tolman, and Mr J. Hames as the subjugated Tolman is always entertaining. Miss Daisy Stone as Katy plays and sings fascinatingly; the Sisters Trippitt find able representatives in the Misses Jennie and Alice Temple and Letitia Flopp. A thoroughly diverting Uncle Obadiah is found in Mr J. F. Hayward; Mr R. E. Rawlinson is well suited as Bob Racket, and Mr Aidan Lovett is good as Mr Dahny. Mr S. Junior makes a lively Hobson.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Charles Schuberth.—Chung-Ling-Soo, Chinese conjuror, is starring here, and packed houses twice nightly cheer him to the echo. Lennee and Hast present a pretty and novel sketch *The Heirloom*; Beatrice Renee is an excellent comedienne; Kurtz is a juggler of ability; Tom Parker, comedian, scores heavily; and Walter Blake excels as a dancer.

LIVERPOOL.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Licensee, Mr J. G. Howard; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Montgomery, jun.—This week there is a talented company here, under the direction of Mr and Mrs F. G. Kimberley, old Liverpool favourites, with the drama, *A Fight for Life*. The work is replete with exciting episodes and the scenic effects are very appropriate and well arranged. Included in the cast are Miss Clara Santley, who, with power, impersonates La Cardell, the revengeful gipsy; Miss Frances Waring, who enacts the blind girl; and Messrs F. G. Kimberley, H. Lyndon, T. Eisbourne, and Miss Edie Macklin. Large and enthusiastic audiences have patronised the North-end theatre each evening this week.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—As usual, a good programme is doing first-rate business. Barnard's Royal Manniklns top the bill; George Leyton, in his military scena, *Boys of the Chelsea School*, assisted by Thomas Castle, a local Crimean veteran, and twenty-four Liverpool boys, is loudly applauded; Geo. White's street arabs are highly amusing; the Alekarno Trio are clever and neat acrobats; Herman Friscari is deservedly applauded for a smart hat-manipulating act; E. B Seener's Charkassen Troupe of vocalists and dancers come in for a full share of applause; Joe Barrett's and Louis Anastasie's exhibition of English and French styles of boxing is greatly enjoyed; and Marie Winsome and Winnie Scott are both good turns.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr H. Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons.—A new and up-to-date drama entitled *A Life's Story* has during the week been submitted to the patrons of the Star. It is smoothly enacted by a capable company under the control of Mr Fred Benton and Mr Sidney Rennef. Mr Rennef, in the dual-rôle of Max Clifford and his son Frank, gave evidence of high histrionic qualifications. Mr Andrew Money was an impressive Count Bergen, "chief of the League of Death;" Mr Charles R. Leicester presented a striking Captain Jack Temple; Mr H. C. Lanceley acted well the part of an English detective; and Miss Amy Ellam gave a well-finished type of an adventuress.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr F. O'Toole.—At the close of the dramatic season the proprietor of this East-end theatre decided to change the style of entertainment, which during the summer months will no doubt be much appreciated. Variety business has opened this week with two houses each night, and for a start the programme arranged is decidedly good. At the top is the Breton Troupe with an extremely humorous pantomimic sketch entitled *The Tramp's Picnic*, which gives great delight. Then Miss Mabel Thorne shows herself an accomplished burlesque actress; Little Lady Fauntleroy presents a well-executed ventriloquial performance; and other turns are provided by Alexander Royal, Geo. Goldburn, and O'Connor and Traynor. The Bioscope depicts the final of the English cup tie, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; General Manager, Mr F. Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A. Cook.—Heading the bill here is Mr George Mozart, who has earned much popularity in this city; Mr W. F. Frame, the Scottish comedian, contributes several songs in his own inimitable fashion; Happy Fanny Fields puts in another successful week; and the sketch, *A Tooth for a Tooth*, by Mr Wm. Lee, Miss Helen Bentley, Mr George Graham, and Mr John Zanger, is mirthful from beginning to end. Gertrella, dancer and gymnast, assisted by Elsie, gives a pleasing illuminated scena, "In Cupid's Garden;" the Wilhelmina Quartet of Dutch singers and sabot dancers elicits hearty applause; and other turns are Hill and Whittaker, with their banjo and singing speciality; J. W. Rickaby, burlesque character comedian; Charles Mildare, whistling comedian; Arthur Gilbert, vocalist and comedian; Amy Russell, ballad vocalist; and Jessie Burnett, comedienne and dancer.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Mr Bert Gilbert, a Liverpool favourite, is principal artiste here this week. Chevalier Thorn presents a number of exceptionally good conjuring tricks; Lachie Thompson's Top-weights (Tom and Neil) give a clever exhibition of boxing, wrestling, and club swinging; a pretty display of acrobatic feats is provided by the Patty Frank Troupe; Celina Bobe shows high musical talent with the violin and xylophone; Larola is an accomplished equilibrist, and other artistes are Clarice Netta, soprano; T. B. Fayme, comedian; Nadji dancer and contortionist; and Lily Sharpe, comedienne.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—An attractive company of artistes is here this week. Foremost may be mentioned Mr Howell Webb's dramatic and comedy combination with *The Blind Girl of Paris*, a pretty domestic sketch. The Sisters Solari, Italian vocalists and instrumentalists, sing and play well, and other turns include Ilona, comedienne; Charles Homer, vocalist; Maude Le Rays, comedienne and dancer; Edwin Turner, actor-vocalist; Emily Huby, elocutionist; Charles Howells, entertainer; Amy Bartlett, burlesque actress; Thompson Lewis, actor-vocalist; and Louie Ireton, soubrette. A screamingly funny sketch, entitled *Never Send Your Wife to Bootle*, which was supported by the entire company, is a capital finish to a good evening's pleasure.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery.—Included in this week's programme are several excellent turns. Foremost is that of Prince Ishmael, who gives a clever conjuring exhibition, some of the tricks evoking astonishment. Dan Conroy is an able comedian and dancer; an interesting item is given by Agnese and Arthur Lynch, American song illustrators; Fields and Lewis provide a neat comedy act; as a comedian and ventriloquist T. B. Talbot displays ability; Carrie Leslie is an acceptable vocalist; and Emmie Milsted gives a pleasant turn as a comedienne and dancer.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—There are several good items presented here this week. Madame Collard provides an acceptable half hour's entertainment with her new attraction, "Robinson Crusoe amidst his Favourites," in which her burlesque trained dogs display a remarkable degree of sagacity. Victor Newman, a character actor of ability, impersonates a number of well-drawn personalities mentioned in the works of Dickens. This is Mr Newman's first appearance in England from the Empire, Johannesburg. Shavo, an expert comedy juggler, presents a turn which is watched with interest; the Four Burgatiles are smart musical pantomimists; Alice Hatherley has a number of good songs, well rendered; Kate and Cissie Sullivan, as duettists and dancers, are very acceptable, and some up-to-date animated pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr Edmonstone Shirra.—A splendid triumph was achieved here on Monday by Sir Henry Irving in *Becket*, which opened a most interesting répertoire for the week. Tennyson's impressive play gives our premier actor fine opportunities for an intellectual and characteristic impersonation of the martyred Archbishop, and an enthusiastic house voiced its approval loudly during the progress of the action and at its close. An excellent company supplemented the superb efforts of Sir Henry by a good all-round rendering of subsidiary parts, the most notable among these being the Henry II. of Mr Gerald Lawrence, Miss Mabel Hackney's Rosamund, Mrs Cecil Raleigh's Eleanor, and the King Louis of Mr Laurence Irving, while Master Cyril Smith played Geoffrey nicely, and Miss Grace Hampton gave a light and pleasing interpretation of Margery. The scenery for this play is a magnificent testimony to the ability of Mr Joseph Harker. Tuesday's bill comprised *Waterloo* and *The Bells*. There could be nothing more pathetic than Sir Henry Irving's impersonation of the old veteran in the former piece, nor could one imagine a more awful and impressive rendering of Mathias in the latter. *Louis XI.* was Wednesday evening's success, followed by *The Merchant of Venice* on Friday.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Manager-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr George Lee.—A large audience witnessed the first performance here of Mr Frank Danby's successful musical comedy *Where's Uncle?* on Monday evening. The piece has all the makings of a profitable venture, and Mr Danby's opportunities as Gibson Gallivant are exactly suited to his comic gifts, which have become well known and popular here through the medium of his part in *A Country Girl*. Mr Stephen Adeson has also a part well suited to him, that of Mark N. Slatem, the head of a private inquiry firm commissioned to discover the whereabouts of the missing uncle. Mr T. W. Volt as Archie Graham walks through the piece in his usual amusing style, and Mr Gus Danby gives a quaint impersonation of the absent-minded geologist who has lost himself while seeking curious stones. The vocal abilities of Mr Rhys Thomas have little or no scope in the piece, but he does well in the rôle of Roy Neilson. It is not improbable that something of the success of this latest addition to the long list of musical comedies will be due to Miss Minnie Hunt's exquisite rendering of two beautiful love songs; but even this notable achievement is but part of the charm with which she plays Dorothy, Slatem's daughter, who is in love with the impecunious Gallivant. Others who work well are Miss Nellie Bouverie (a capital comic waitress), Miss Elsie Carew as the wife of the missing man, Miss Mabel Russell as Winnie Graham, and Mr Milroy Cooper as a typical sergeant of Highlanders. The music, chorus, dresses, and staging are all very good.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr H. M. Thorburn.—*Charley's Aunt*, played by Mr W. S. Penley's chief company, attracted a good house here on Monday evening. The popular farcical comedy is very well presented, Mr Edwin H. Wynne and Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald sharing the prime honours as Lord Fancourt Babberley and Kitty Verdun respectively. Others who contribute much to the entertainment are Mr Walter Pemberton, Mr Richard Fielding, Mr Aubrey Mallalieu, Mr Mark Wylton, Mr Fred Epitaux, Miss Mary Morison, Miss Marie Grogan, and Miss Mary Mallalieu.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr Wm. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead.—Mr Mayhew and Mrs Herrick's company occupies the boards here this week in *The Triumph of Truth*. Mr Edward E. Louis and Miss Marie Auckland have the principal parts in hand, and their efforts are ably supplemented by Mr T. Renaud Lockwood and Miss Rosabel Dodd. The play contains plenty of agreeable humour, which is contributed by Mr Frank Radcliffe, Mr John Clegg, Miss Lilian Ramsdale, and Miss Lily Rogers.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Wm. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—This week's programme is headed by Tom Davies, who goes through his sensational cycling act, "Whirling the Whirl," with his usual success. Cullane and Conroy give a clever exhibition of comedy boxing; and Clown Charlton also is well received in a very smart musical act. The Three Adriennes are clever lady vocalists, dancers, and whistlers; the Cinizelli Four give a smart acrobatic performance; and other entertaining turns are Sid Bandon, comedian; Minnie Palmerston, comedienne; Law and Norman, vocalists; and Frank Gee, comedian. The Metropole pictures complete the bill.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Wm. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Miss Winifred Chalmers's company is here this week in the Adelphi drama *A Woman's Revenge*. Like many predecessors from the same source, the story is a distinctly good one, worked out with ample dramatic effect. Mr Henry L. Osmond is conspicuous in the cast, and gives a powerful delineation of Frank Drummond, the young barrister; while Miss Winifred Chalmers is correspondingly successful in the rôle of Mary Lolsdale. A word of praise is due also to little Ella's impersonation of Drummond's child. The remainder of the cast are equal to all demands, and the play has the advantage of capital staging.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. E. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—The Loma Trio head the bill here this week, and give a finished exhibition of muscular feats on the rings and on a novel electrical revolving apparatus. Valvero executes some capital lightning sketches in crayons, including the Bombardment of Port Arthur, with firework effects. Hicks's Clerks are clever vocalists and comedians, and introduce "That Boy Peter," who causes much laughter with his quaint business. Well-trained animals are introduced by Clown Barker and his miniature circus; Warden Reed and company are seen to advantage in an amusing sketch *Married or Photographed*; Henri Bekker is a smart conjuror; Fred Ramsdale's company scores highly in their *Giddy Kipper* sketch; whilst other enjoyable items are Wal Robbins, the black and white musical comedian; Sadie Seymour, comedienne and dancer; J. C. Morris, comedian; and the Hippodrome pictures.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—*The Spectre of Mildew Chase*, a screamingly funny farce, is excellently played here this week by Lavers and Lake, and is received with roars of laughter. Another prominent feature in the programme is the marvellous muscular development and feats of strength of the Athlones. The name of Laffan B. Jolly sufficiently indicates the character of an amusing vocal contribution; and Meir, in his comedy act, and Merton and Rydon, with their duets, add to the merriment. Shingleton, the singing collier, contributes two songs; and the Bollingers are responsible for a novelty in the shape of some pictures constructed from various odds and ends. The Two Falcons give an acrobatic performance much above the average; and the entertainment is completed by Wallis and Walton, eccentric comedians, and some interesting animated pictures.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—Madame Ada Colley, the famous Australian prima donna, with her wonderful top notes, is the attraction here this week, and meets with a flattering reception. Ray Maskell is a pleasing comedienne and dancer. Excellent and clever turns are those of the Gracios Trio in a smart acrobatic act, and the Four Skandias in their gymnastic performance. Decidedly entertaining and amusing are the Wilsons, cross-talk and medley artists, and Charles Faning, patter and vocal comedian. Others who contribute to the programme are Maud Clifton, a capital descriptive vocalist; Nell Richardson, comedienne; and Peter Kelly, character comedian.

GRAND.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—A strong programme is submitted here this week, including the remarkable juggling performance of B. Troba. Other excellent and amusing turns are the Mackweys in their original comedy wire act; the Harvey Boys in a burlesque boxing sketch; and Howe and Hardie, comedy gymnasts. Clever turns are provided by the Lizzette Troupe of lady acrobats, and Haig and Novel in an entertaining comedy act. Besides these we have Charles Bignell, comedian; Mora and Lola, in musical burlesque; Adeline Yohle, a pleasing ballad vocalist; Elsie Rubina, graceful on the wire; and a series of up-to-date animated pictures.

PALACE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr P. Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—Paul Martinetti and company, in *A Terrible Night*, remain here another week, as popular as ever; and Harry Freeman, the breezy comedian, repeats his success. The newcomers include the laughter-making M'Naughtons, two of the most amusing cross-talkers before the public; Alice Lloyd, the chic comedienne, who sings several telling songs; and Dolly Harmer, the popular comedienne, who makes a hit with her song "I've been helping mother all I can." Excellent turns, also, are Clark and Argyle, clever exponents of international dancing and pipers of high merit; Will Cornish, in a delightful musical act; Berthe Palliser, ballad vocalist, who sings remarkably well; and the charming babes Dolly Cullen and Elsie Jordison, two promising children who sing nicely and dance gracefully. Other good turns are Alma Gray, Australian coon singer and dancer; Charles Somers, a comedian of the immobile order; and the Palace pictures. Friday night being the thirteenth anniversary, a special performance was arranged, including, in addition to the ordinary programme, many stars from the surrounding towns and local places of amusement.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—This week the New Century animated pictures include, amongst other interesting and attractive films, the local Whitsuntide processions.

MARGATE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr F. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr C. F. Bawtree.—Mr Mouillot's company has been paying a return visit this week with reproductions of the comedies *Caste* and *Ours*. Mrs Mouillot played Polly Eccles on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday with her accustomed charm, and found admirable support from Mr H. Cooper Cliffe as Capt. Hawtree and Mr Rawson Buckley as the Hon. George D'Alroy. Mr Fred. Grove made an amusing Eccles, and Mr Welton Dale was equally funny as Sam Gerridge. Miss Kathleen Russell was a pleasing Esther Eccles, and Miss Alice Belmore played the Marquis de St. Mawr well. The bill was changed on Thursday for *Ours*, with Mrs Mouillot as Mary Netley.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr E. Macknight; Business-Manager, Mr Charles E. Hardy.—During the week Mr Richard F. Symons's company has been appearing here in comedy. On the first three nights Grundy's *The Glass of Fashion* was presented with Mr D. Lewin Mannering as Prince Borowski, a part most capably sustained. Mr Percy Marmont was a capital Colonel Trevanion, and Mr Leonard Grey did excellently as Mr Macadam. Mr Lionel Yeoman has been good as Mr Prior Jenkyn, and Mr H. K. Ayliff makes a capital Hon. Tom Stanhope. Miss Eva Moss plays well as Nina Trevanion, Miss Gertrude Homewood is a capable Peg O'Reilly, Miss Richardson does well as Lady Coombe, and Miss Mannering and Mr Newton are efficient as the servants. For Thursday evening the comedy, *Sunlight and Shadow*, was billed.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson.—*A Royal Divorce* is attracting large audiences here this week. This play is effectively staged, and the company under the management of Mr W. W. Kelly is a capable one. Miss Agnes Imlay as the Empress Josephine submits a delightful impersonation, and Miss Ethyle Murray is dignified and effective as Marie Louise. Miss Beatrice Webb makes a bright and vivacious Stephanie; and the Misses Christine Middleton, Vera Hollis, and Doris Fitzgerald do well in the small parts of Blanche, Angelique, and the little King of Rome. As Napoleon Mr George W. Cockburn gives a fine representation of the Little Corporal; Mr William Dexter is effective as Tallyrand; Mr Frank Stone is commendable as the Marquis De Beaumont; and Mr Alfred Wellesley supplies genuine humour in the part of Grimaud, Innkeeper of Genappe.

DRILL HALL.—Crocker's educated horses and ponies are paying a revisit, and are well patronised. The intelligence with which the stud of nearly thirty horses performed various evolutions is remarkable, and bears testimony of the skill and patience exercised by Professor Crocker in their training.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr Israel Price.—Dr. Seaton's variety company hold possession this week, and playing to good houses. The company includes Dr. Seaton, illusionist; Goliath, a youthful weight-lifter; Fred Walburn, concertinist; Professor Calson, ventriloquist; Tom Johnson, actor-vocalist; Dorothy Bolini, soprano vocalist; the Donnells, comedy duettists; and Jessie O'Neil, in vocal selections. Animated pictures of life in Canada, Japan, and Russia conclude a capital entertainment.

MEXBOROUGH.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—The boards of this theatre are occupied this week by Miss Marie Menzies' company in the drama *A Rogue's Daughter*. Miss Madge Devereux makes a big hit as Lady Mynard, the Rogue's daughter; Miss Marie Menzies touches a sympathetic chord in the role of Letty Grey; and Miss Mabel Hall, although of tender years, performs the part of Dickey, a waif, with distinction. Mr Frank V. Fenn makes a good Sir Geo Mynard; Mr Wilfred Blair sustains the part of Frank Tyler with credit; Mr Richard Ferris is capital in the character of Colonel Foster, as also is Mr Harry H. Rignold in his impersonation of Isaac Isaacs. Mr A. Hall Menzies introduces the humorous element with good effect as Ercules.

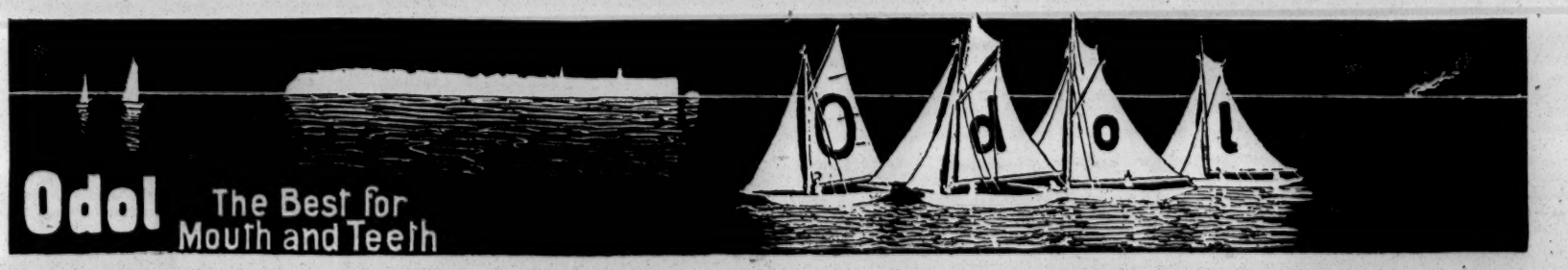
MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Geo. and Chas. Imeson.—Mr Fredk. Melville's company in the drama *Between Two Women* is being played here, and is meeting with hearty appreciation. Mr Sydney Price as Earl of Millard makes a good impression, and Harry Millard is played with much success by Mr Frank Robertson, whilst Mr Fred Morgan is a refined Rev. Philip Carton. As Jack Pringle Mr Tubby Edlin is good, and Major Strangeways is undertaken by Mr Henry St. Leger to the satisfaction of the audience. Mr J. W. Waters's Jacques Spado is very effective. The Violet Thornton of Miss Marie Robson and the Carmen de Savereaux of Miss Marie M'Aulay are very finely rendered. Miss Pattie Elliot receives much appreciation for her sympathetic portrayal of the blind boy, and Polly Popp is taken with much refinement by Miss Mabel Carr. The other parts are in capable hands.

OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Licensee, Mr T. Hopcutt.—Miss Mary Austin and company, under the direction of Mr E. Vivian Edmonds, are here. *Passion's Power* was played on Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, and on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday *The Cotton Spinner* was given. Both plays are well acted and capitally staged, and throughout the presentations meet with approval. The cast includes Mr E. Vivian Edmonds, Mr J. Williams, Mr J. Shinton, Mr Ernest Douglas, Mr J. Haydon, Mr Frank Storey, Mr James Welch, Mr Arthur Bower, Miss Florence Thorne, Miss Violet Clayton, and Miss Mary Austin.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—At this place of amusement Leo Dryden, actor-vocalist, heads the bill, and meets with an enthusiastic reception. His rendering of his latest success, "For Freedom and Japan," quite captivates the large audiences who nightly assemble. Martin Chapender, magician and billiard-ball manipulator, does some clever tricks; Charles De Camo's canine mental marvel, Cora, is wonderfully good; Miss Mabel Hind, in her scena, "A Little Japanese," receives hearty plaudits; *A Desperate Remedy* is well acted by Mr and Mrs Finden; and the impersonations of Rita Resdan come in for much applause. Miss Kathleen Gray, burlesque actress, sings sweetly, and the Two Bostons, novelty showmen, are here for another week and delight the audience. Some amusing films are shown on the Edisonograph, and the orchestra adds much to the entertainment.

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr Wm. Robinson; Manager, Mr Wm. Ainsworth.—At the Oxford this week Nordini makes his first appearance in England, and tops the bill. He gives an exhibition of his muscular development, and frees himself from chains. The audience receives him with great enthusiasm. J. H. Milburn makes a great hit; Chanti is a clever dancer; and Miss Lily Sharplin, vocalist and mimic, is good. The Howards, musical grotesques,



submit an excellent turn; whilst Harry Taft, comedian, evokes much applause. Les Barras, comedy gymnasts, give some smart feats; and the Paragon Trio's vocal contributions are highly appreciated. Some amusing films are shown on the "Bio."

NEW BRIGHTON.

TOWER THEATRE.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Albert Bulmer.—A strong company is in possession here this week, including Forest and King, in a clever eccentric novelty acrobatic and dancing act; Rosie Cubani, burlesque actress and dancer; Gray and Welford, comedy duo and burlesque boxers; Master Tom Hayes, juvenile comedian and mimic; Gerald Mount, comedian; and the Two Neros, funny acrobats and pantomimists, in the speciality act *The Escaped Convicts*. The Royal Bioscope is also an attraction.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs Adeler and Sutton.—A powerful combination of artistes is appearing here this week, including Mr Paul Mill, who has some comic ditties; Miss Ruby Rosine, comedienne; Idris Perkins, baritone; Ambrose Thorne, comedian; J. G. Taylor, comedian; Miss Ethelle Stapley, solo violinist; and Miss Mary Thorne, accompanist.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr Fred C. Sutcliffe.—The appearance here of Messrs Arthur Carlton and H. Armitage's company in *In the Ranks* serves to revive memories of the favourite drama, which is well staged. Mr Stanley Bedwell gives forceful expression to the fortitude and sterling qualities of Ned Drayton; Mr Chas. H. Lester makes a capable Gideon Blake; a fund of enjoyable humour is purveyed by Mr Cecil Clayton in the character of Joe Buzzard; Miss Edith Blair-Staples is safely entrusted with the rôle of Ruth Herrick; and Barbara Herrick has a bright representative in Miss Ella Wilmer. The worthy Mrs Buzzard is well embodied by Miss Anna Beaumont; Mr Archie W. Chappell appears to advantage as Capt. Holcroft; and Mr Walter Beaumont doubles the parts of Richard Belton and Mr Timmins, and success attends his efforts in each case.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr T. W. Rowe.—The drama with the partly obliterated title of *Secrets* — —— —— is being presented here by Messrs J. F. Preston and P. E. Doherty's company, under the direction of Mr Walter King. With the action taking place in Turkey, there is plenty of opportunity for picturesque stage-setting. Mr Sidney C. Cranston makes a manly and spirited Lieut. Markham, and his friend, Cecil Cholmondeley, is enjoyably enacted by Mr Karl H. Edwards. Considerable merit is to be noted in Mr J. Templar Ellis's embodiment of Ibrahim Al Murad, and Mr W. E. Winning is an imposing Caliph. Miss May Carlton acts with grace and sympathetic feeling as Ismalla, and Zuleika is well enacted by Miss Elma C. Turner. Warm praise may be bestowed on Mr W. H. Woodin and Miss Molly Hackett for their lively and mirth-provoking comedy efforts as Peter Wilkins and Winnie Wilkins respectively. During the course of the piece the Tivoli Quartet of dancers make several appearances.

GRAND THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Ernest W. Bacon.—The musical comedy-drama, *Otto the Outcast*, is being performed here. Mr Harry Starr scores his customary success in the title-part, and he is supported by a good company, which includes Miss Ethel Danbury. *Schwenk the Dreamer* was down for production on Friday night.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—The dramatic episode, *87; or, The Veteran's Birthday*, is being presented here by Mr Bransby Williams, who appears as an old military officer, and gives one of those telling character impersonations in which he excels. He receives good support from Mr F. Morland. Carl Hertz displays his cleverness as a conjuror, and he also introduces some new illusions, in which he is assisted by Mdlle. D'Alton. Much enjoyment is to be derived from the juggling act presented with so much humour and originality by Tom Hearn. Smart duettists and dancers in the Sisters Lunelle are well to the fore, and Orpheus performs excellently on various musical instruments. Marie Sinnett is a pleasing comedienne, and a favourite here in Lawrence Barclay makes a welcome appearance. Fred Zola, eccentric comedian, also contributes, and the concluding item consists of W. Selkirk's patriotic spectacle, *The Gordons at Newcastle*, in which 100 local children take part. Fanny and Harry Dent are also programmed, but they did not appear on the night of our visit.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr Will H. Boardman.—A trio of conjurors and mystifiers of superlative excellence in Servais Le Roy, Mdlle Talma, and Leon Bosco are here again after a comparatively short absence, and repeating their previous great success. Donaldson Bros. and Ardel are presenting a pantomimical sketch, *A Zoological Comedy*, which they bustle through right merrily. A musical act is contributed by Wallino's Comedy Four, who are announced as making their first appearance in England. Billy Richardson occasions merriment with his stump oration which is delivered in approved style, and Vera Patey scores in her song with a laughing chorus. Some neat juggling and hoop spinning is performed by Mons. Hurman, and the Arleys, comedy cyclists and acrobats, appear successfully. Gus Harris, Hebrew delineator, has been well received, as also has Nora Emerald in her song and dance. The sensational feat of looping the loop on a bicycle was billed to be performed by Miss Madeline, but owing to some hitch in connection with the apparatus this item was not given in the early part of the week.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Sidney Cooper.—*In Dark Siberia* is being presented here by Mr Frederick Jarman's excellent company. Mr W. T. Riley plays with vigour the hero, Capt. Victor Gordon, and Miss Helen M'Cullough as Natalie Gordon (Princess Orloff) is intensely emotional; Major Waroft, the villain, is effectively played by Mr Chas. Osborne; Mr Bert H. Ross makes a dignified Col. Nevski; Miss Cecilia Ransome plays Paul Gregorovitch (the Jew lad) with power; and Sonia Gordon is very prettily portrayed by Miss Katie Osborne. The humorous parts of Sergeant Petrovitch and Ivanova are well played by Mr Fowler Thatcher and Miss Linda Riley respectively.

EMPIRE.—Moss's Empires, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr O. Stoll.—Austin Rudd tops the bill this week, and is as popular as ever. Geo. Spry and Florrie Austin present an extravaganza which keeps the house in a constant ripple of laughter; and *A Trip to Boulogne*, provided by the Edmunds Troupe, is full of mirth-provoking incidents. Foreman and Fannan, in duets and funny patter, keep the house in roars. Signor and Madame Borelli are remarkable pianists, and the Miles Stavordale Quintet's playing is of a high order. The Mayvilles, with their Liliputian figures, provide quite a novel turn; the Swickards, in their sketch *The Flower Girl*, win approval; and Vi Holmes, a graceful dancer, completes the bill.

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr W. J. Andrews.—This week Mr Arnold Bell's company is here in *The Shaughraun* and *The Octoroon*. Mr Bell as Conn is a great success, and Miss Ida Bastow is a talented young lady whose singing is greatly admired. Miss Violet Campbell, Miss Frances Campbell, Mr F. Robson, Mr H. M. Clifford, Mr Dalton Robertson, and Mr W. Roch all render effective service.

NEW PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Goodwin Woodward.—Ida Kossanly's troupe of dogs is a popular and pleasing turn; Will Ellerslie is a clever comedian and entertainer; Criss Florence is a graceful dancer; the Watson Trio give an amusing comic sketch; Kloof and Ramsay please in a novel musical burlesque; Flossie Bray is a versatile burlesque actress; and George Edney, comedian; the Hilton male impersonator; the Jetneys, coloured comedians; and Li-Chang also contribute.

NORTH SHIELDS.

BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee.—Mr J. F. Elliston's company, with *The Octoroon*, is proving attractive here this week. Miss Ada Elliston appears as Zoe, and does her work in capital style, and Miss Amy Hermann scores a well-deserved success as Dora Sunnyside. Miss Edith Halford is an efficient Mrs Peyton, and Miss Ada Tilley is a capable Paul. As George Peyton Mr Frank Strickland is seen to great advantage; Mr Eric Hudson makes the most of Jacob M'Closky; and Mr Charles Hermann plays the part of Salem Scudder in an admirable manner. Mr Harrry Leander ably sustains the character of Old Uncle Pete, and Mr Lonnen Meadows scores as Wah-no-tee. The Dahomian Cake Walk Champions (Miss Nellie Shannon, Miss Alice Smith, and Messrs Gibbs, Perkins, and Harris) are enthusiastically received, and Mr Jimmie James, banjo and bone player, comes in for a cordial reception.

NEW CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr William Mould.—The Brothers Ethairien, eccentric comedians, are making a big hit here, and Mr James Brady, vocal joker, is as well received as ever. Mr Ned Doyle, comedian and dancer, is an old favourite, and Minnie and Harry, gymnasts, do well. Messrs Bishop and Vale, comedians and dancers, are clever, and Miss Agnes Burns, ballad vocalist, and the Bio-Photoscope are received with favour.

NORWICH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Manager, Mr Fred Morgan.—*There and Back*, with an excellent company, is proving very attractive here. Mr Louis Goodrich as William Waring is very good, and Mr Maurice Robinson equally so as Harry Lewson. Mr A. L. Baskcomb is excellent as Jack Macrae, Mr Bert Monks does well as Guy Gundling, Mr Harry Mann is amusing in the part of Robert. Miss Marie Polini gives a clever representation of Mrs Lewson, and Miss Evelyn Neilida acts well as Mrs Waring. Miss Daisy Robinson as Marie Antoinette Smith deserves praise, and Miss R. L'Estrange as Jane wins favour.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr F. W. Fitt; Musical Director, Captain Selby.—An excellent programme is presented here this week. Harry Edson and his highly trained dog are immensely attractive; Miss Marvelle's performing cockatoos and macaws are a clever turn; Baker and Balfe, xylophonists, are well received; the Herald Comedy Four are highly acceptable; the Gladenbecks, hand balancers, exhibit much skill; Lillie Lassah is a charming comedienne, and Dorothy Bolini a warm favourite. Johnnie Alexander evokes much laughter in his skit "Our lodger," and with the Bioscope make up an excellent programme. Miss Roma and her picanninies appeared on Tuesday and during the week, materially adding to the entertainment.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Howard Finney; Treasurer, Mr Bernard Hisbin.—The Compton comedy company, with Mr Compton at its head, received a real warm welcome on Monday in *Davy Garrick*. Mr Compton, is, perhaps, seen at his best in impersonating Davy. The part demands much tact and discriminating care, especially in the famous drunken scene, and Mr Compton was accorded an ovation for his masterly performance. Miss Haidée Gunn brings an intelligent conception to bear on the part of Violet, and her dainty acting won all hearts; Mr A. B. Imeson gave full expression to the foolishness of the Hon. Tom Tallyhaut; and Mr Henry Crocker skilfully portrayed Alderman Gresham. Miss Marie Hassell was especially good as Mrs Rumbelow, and Mrs Culling embodied Selina to marked advantage. Messrs Charles R. Stone, Arnold Lucy, and Cecil Duncan gave excellent performances, and the play went with a swing from start to finish. Mr Compton took a benefit on Friday, when *To-morrow* was performed. Also included in the week's bill were *The School for Scandal*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, and *A Reformed Rake*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Charles P. Cooke.—*The Seal of Silence* makes a successful mixture of tragedy, mystery, and mirth, much to the taste of audiences here, and the company organised by Miss M. B. Buckstone and Mr J. K. Cox deserves congratulation. Mr Fred L. Moore plays Kenneth Morrison with care. Mr Edward S. Petley gives a spirited representation of Geoffrey Merrington. Mr Franklyn Graham fully describes the villainous character of Captain Hedley Norman, and Mr George Langdon interprets Dr. Mark Renwood, an unscrupulous scientist, with commendable tact. Mr Henry Lonsdale has a congenial part in Jack Ellerslie, and Mr Henry Elton impersonates the old cripple, Jasper Syme, cleverly and effectively. Miss Gertrude Hunt submits a refined and artistic study of Lilian Desbrooke, rousing hearty sympathy for her unfortunate position. Miss Mary B. Buckstone as Madeline Morrison gives a graceful and charming representation, and little Violet Du Cane is a natural exponent of Victor. The comedy parts form a great relief, thanks to the efforts of Miss Lucy Coventry (Dora) and Mr J. Cledon Salter (Bimbo).

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Geo. H. Beagle.—Mr Sydney Vereker's company is presenting the sensational drama *The Red Signal*. The scenery and mechanical effects are excellently done, and a thoroughly creditable performance is given. Mr Oliver Rogers plays the scoundrelly Sir Otto Darkwood with subtlety and force; Mr C. Sandford is appropriately vigorous in his portrayal of the hero, Jack Darkwood; and Miss Ella Sennett acts with artistic conception and womanly tenderness as May Sorrell. Miss Norah Caronne is impressively earnest and resolute in her depiction of Florence Culver; Mr F. Thorpe Tracy as Peter Sorrell makes a good impression; and Mr Sydney Vereker is a quaint and comical interpreter of Sammy Gay. Mrs Tomlin gives a fine character study of Crazy Sal, and Miss Flo Bannister adds to the comedy by her vivaciousness as Jenny Jones. A word of praise is also due to Messrs Percy Dunn, Hugh Mortimer, and Thos. Price.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—Each visit of Cinquevalli only serves to prove that he has no rival in his marvellous performance, and his appearance on Monday evoked great applause. The next order of merit undoubtedly falls to the Brothers Leslie, who are not only highly gifted musicians, but combine with it some excellent fooling. The Fergano Trio offer an expert head-balancing performance, and another clever turn is provided by Sibb and Sibb on the trapeze. A bright and animated entertainment by Howard and St. Clair deservedly wins approbation, and a real coon is seen in Will English, whose eccentricities are a welcome feature. May Milburn displays versatility in her dancing, and Carrie Joy renders a song in taking style. Frank Coyne's contributions are also thoroughly appreciated. Pat Rafferty is also on the bill.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr C. C. Dorrill.—This week Mr Beerbohm Tree's company is paying a welcome return visit with *The Eternal City*, which, admirably mounted and staged, and interpreted by a capable company, is repeating the success achieved on its first visit. Mr Oscar Adye's Bonelli is a fine performance; Mr Philip Cunningham gives an interesting and powerful rendering of David Rossi; Mr Maule Cole's Bruno Rocco is a very clever study of character; Mr Murray Hathorne gives a capital performance of the Pope; and Mr F. Cremlin does well as Father Pifferi. The Donna Roma of Miss Ruth Mackay is a fine rendering, showing great power and artistic finish in the chief scenes.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells.—Mr Henry Hare's company is here with *The Girl from Chicago*. Mr Buckstone Clair, an old favourite here, is admirable as Judge Ananias Hussell; Mr Clarence Ibbotson scores heavily as Brother Obadiah Caccles; Mr Henry Hare is natural as General Boomer; and Mr D. Vigors is well placed as Percy Montmorency; Mr W. Bland makes the most of the part of Billy M'Guffin; Miss N. Vicott enacts Lucretia Flatfoot with considerable vigour. Mrs Sweetlove is capably portrayed by Miss Lucy Beaumont; Miss Madeline Du Val acts with taste as Flora Boomer; and speciality dances are artistically contributed by the Daffodils.

PAISLEY.

PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile.—Messrs Jerold Heather and George A. De Gray's company is appearing here this week in *A Life at Stake*. Mr Jerold Heather makes a manly and efficient Jack Hilliard; Mr G. A. De Gray plays powerfully as Lieut. Desmond; Mr J. L. Edmonde gives a capital portraiture of Captain Blanchard; and excellently played and humorous embodiments are the Obadiah Sleek of Mr Francis Hope, the Dan Cherry of Mr Harry Turner, and the Bill Jolly of Mr Robert Barton. Miss Evelyn Marrable submits an intelligent and carefully executed portrayal of Dorothy Maraden; Madge Seaton is faithfully depicted by Miss Etta Turner; Miss Cissy Cleveland scores as Rosie Appleton; and Miss Ollie Smith is to be complimented on her clever assumption of Lucy Seaton.

PENTRE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Owners, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr Eugene Hardie.—Notwithstanding counter attractions, Miss Rosina J. Brettall's *Trip to Boston* company is very successful at this theatre. The comedy element runs through the whole piece, and smart, up-to-date songs and clever dances are the order. Amandus, the facial mimic, commands attention in the rôle of Mrs O'Leary. Miss Stella Desmond as Kathleen O'Mallev is very good, and has a capital voice. Miss Florrie Rosina is charming as Norah O'Leary, and shows her skill as an expert and versatile instrumentalist. Mr Wally Scott and Miss Minnie Mason as Leo and Lucinda White respectively contribute greatly to the merriment, and are exceedingly good in their songs and dances. Mr Arthur Cartwright is in fine voice as Count Giaggi. Mr A. T. Hendon, Mr Percy Rano, Mr Jack Thacker, and Mr Robert Meredith all sustain their respective parts creditably. The specialities include the Mascotte Minstrels, Amandus, the facial mimic; the Three Sisters Le Grahame, acrobatic dancers; and Musical Miss Rosina in her selections on a variety of instruments.

PENZANCE.

ALEXANDRA GARDENS.—Messrs Benet and Marshall having obtained from the local council the rights of performing on the front for the season, erected their attractive bijou pavilion in these grounds this week, and opened their campaign on Tuesday with their company entitled the Benmar Troubadours. Judging from the reception accorded them, this bright and clever troupe is destined to become very popular. The artistes include Mr Sydney Atherton, a capital basso; Mr Tom G Warren, a highly acceptable humourist and monologue entertainer; Mr Lister Morrah, a pleasing tenor; Mr Alf Shaw, an up-to-date comedian; and Messrs J. A. Coulton and Harry Benet, all of whom work hard and successfully.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS, WESTERN HOTEL.—Messrs Keith-Prowse are giving a series of high-class recitals here this week, and among other attractive features is the Apollo, a mechanical pianoforte player, which is very popular. The management is in the hands of Mr E. A. Marriott and Mr George Phillips.

PORTH.

POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr W. Bynoth.—On Monday Mr Charles March's company opened in the powerful spectacular play entitled *The Priest of the Temple*. Mr Ronald Bayne is a fine impersonator of the title-rôle; Mr Charles March gives an excellent rendering of the part of Valerius; and Mr Edwin Lever as Appius Herdonius shows power and capability. Miss Marie North deserves mention for the able manner in which she takes the part of Praestantia. Much credit is due to Miss Evelyn Hope as Polita. Mr Whit Rogerson is a capital Alertius; Mr W. Clarke and Mr Fitzroy Temple as Vertricus and Asquatus, priests of the Temple, are exceedingly good; and Mr Stanley May distinguishes himself as Hermanus.

PORTSMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Bell.—Lovers of Shakespeare have had an opportunity of seeing at this house during the week two comedies and a tragedy by the immortal William, presented by Mr Tree's répertoire company, under the direction of Mr William Haviland. On Monday *Twelfth Night* was given. Mr Havlland as Malvolio was in fine form, his rendering being very complete and polished; Mr Julian L'Estrange made the most of the part of the love-sick Orsino; Sir Toby Belch was most carefully and amusingly acted by Mr Lionel Brough; the Sir Andrew Aguecheek of Mr Lyn Harding was capital; Mr Oscar Asche did full justice to the part of Antonio; Mr Charles Bibby as Festa was distinctly good, his singing being very acceptable; and Sebastian was ably played by Mr J. H. Irvine. Miss Constance Collier's admirable portrayal of Viola was a carefully finished performance; Miss Margaret Halstan as the Countess Olivia was very dignified and correct; and Miss Cicely Richards was a most amusing Maria. The scenery was elaborate, the Garden of Olivia being ideal. *The Merrie Wives of Windsor* and *Julius Cæsar* are also in the répertoire.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr T. E. Agate.—Mr Ernest Carpenter's company, in the new romantic drama *For the Woman He Loves*, has been occupying the boards here. Miss Nina Vaughton is very successful in the rôle of Mrs Mary Vernon; Mr Edward L. Garside as Silas Bradley is powerful; Mr Stanley S. Gordon as Philip Meredith acts carefully and well; and Miss Ida Bell as Tilda, Miss Daisy Royale as Virginie, and the remainder of the cast work hard. The scenic effects are good.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—The bill this week here is headed by John Marx, the modern Hercules; Mdlle. Emmy and her canine pets are a pleasing turn; the Bros. Ashley in their comedy boxing sketch are amusing; Will Poluski, jun., is a clever dancer and comedy artiste; Baroni and Kemp, protean artistes, are a smart couple; and Joe Humphreys, vocal comedian; the Wedburns, patterers and comedians; Nancy Lee, comedy artiste; and Payne's Photo-Bioscope are among the attractions.

PEOPLE'S PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Pearce.—A very good programme is provided here this week. Gilbert Ainslie and company in their capital sketch *A Woman's Sin* are much appreciated. The Mayo Comedy Trio in their farcical absurdity *Timid's Troubles*; Sabino, musical entertainer, a smart turn; Marie Tilley, a great favourite as a character comedienne; Pauline Bell, vocalist; Ella Cole, comedienne and dancer; Sisters Dears, duettists and dancers; Dave Wallace, comedian; and Jas. Huntley, comedian and dancer, are also among the attractions.

PLYMOUTH.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr Percy Williams; Assistant-Manager, Mr Langdon Lee.—The detective drama *From Scotland-Yard* is here this week, well played by Messrs C. and R. Finch Hatton's company. Mr Paul Lovett as Dean Fordyce and Mr C. Finch-Hatton as Detective Jack Dale attract special mention. Mr C. Finch Hatton is a host in himself, and is successful in impersonating no fewer than five distinct characters. Miss Gladys Wynne as Mabel, and Miss Marion Forester as Sybil are prominent.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr A. Carlton; Manager, Mr Louis Karpe.—With Mr Tree's company *The Darling of the Gods* is being presented here this week. Miss Lilly Brayton as Yo San fully meets the requirements of the part; Mr Robert Pateman displays genuine talent as Zakkuri; Mr G. Kay Souper makes a gallant Prince Kara; and Mr J. Graeme-Campbell plays with dignity as Prince Saignon. Mr Race Dunrobin as Kato, the fisherman, plays a small part, and makes it important by his excellent acting. Mrs Nye Chart distinguishes herself as a geisha, and a word of praise is due to Mr E. Y. Rae, who as the dumb Inu is much appreciated. Miss Dorothy Brunt renders incidental geisha songs with success.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Brothers; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Field.—Bella and Bijou top the bill here this week, and their performance fully merits the distinction. Clever acrobatic feats by the Missouris evoke much merriment; Mdlle. Angar's performance on the trapeze elicits well-deserved approbation; Miss Fanny Robina (associated with Miss Florrie Cooper, who sings the chorus from the circle seats) delights her hearers with pretty and pathetic songs, especially "My little baby boy. The O'Malleys, a pair of smart comedians and patterers, prove highly diverting; Mr Tom Lloyd sings a couple of humorous songs in his eccentric style, and the impersonations given by Royal Best of celebrities are clear and lifelike. Miss Florrie Cooper sings in clear and excellent voice "Mother's star," which is loudly applauded; and Miss Edie Maddison, a dainty comedienne and dancer, completes an excellent programme, which is considerably enhanced by Mdlle. Angar's charming and graceful gymnastic performances.

PROMENADE PIER.—Manager, Mr John Higson.—The Three Merrions are the attraction here this week and are providing a most diverting and interesting entertainment, which consists of musical mélange, character sketch, and pictorial exhibitions.

RADCLIFFE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Geo. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr Jas. Boothman.—Mr Edmund Tearle and his company have this week produced a round of standard plays. On Monday, when *Richard III.* was presented, Mr Tearle was seen to advantage as the Duke of Gloucester; and Mr W. J. Miller (Buckingham), Miss M. Ford (Lady Anne), Miss Campbell (Duchess of Yorke), and Miss Ommundere (Elizabeth) lent him valuable assistance. On Tuesday an excellent representation of *Ingomar* was given, and on Wednesday *Othello* was played.

RAMSGATE.

AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr H. Bowman.—Poole's excellent myriorama, with up-to-date pictures of the Russo-Japanese conflict, has been much appreciated here this week. As usual, the dioramic and mechanical effects are clever and telling, and the *tout ensemble* is of the high standard of merit for which Poole's have become famed. Many meritorious varieties are included in the programme, among them being the Bendella Acrobatic Troupe, Mr and Mrs F. Searle, jugglers; Horton and Linder, horizontal bar artistes, &c. Mr F. Drake leads an efficient orchestra.

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND.—Co-Proprietors and Lessees, Messrs A. Milton, W. Johnson, and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr J. Ellis Miller.—Mr W. W. Kelly's company opened here on Monday with *A Royal Divorce* to a crowded house, and delighted the large audience with a really excellent performance. Miss Lilla Wilde was a capable Josephine, playing with intense emotion. Miss Violet Agnew as Marie Louise did well, and Miss Helen Richmond as Stephanie was very good, a quiet vein of humour being imparted to the character. Mr Frederick Victor's Napoleon was an impersonation of great power, and as Talleyrand Mr Claude Agnew acquitted himself creditably.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr W. E. Barnett.—The new sensational play *The Master Criminal* was presented here with success on Monday evening. The company is the same which appeared at the recent first production of the piece at Margate, a full report of which duly appeared in these columns. The play was favourably received. Mr George Black gave a strong rendering of the title-rôle. Miss Nellie Thearle was also successful as Cecile, and the other parts were all in good hands. Mr Stedman's well-known juvenile choir appeared to great advantage in a clever selection of songs, dances, and recitations. The company is under the direction of Mr Stanley Hope.

RHYL.

QUEEN'S PALACE.—Manager, Mr P. J. Ashfield; Secretary, Mr E. W. Parry.—The following are appearing here this week:—Percy Victor's Dog Orchestra, a troupe of well-trained canine performers; De Bessell, a clever clay modeller; the Sisters Bartholomew, duettists and dancers; and Adelina, lady facial artist, who remains another week, and is successful in characters from Dickens. The Palace Vivagraph concludes the programme.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr A. R. Sutcliffe.—The pierrots have a capital programme. A. R. Sutcliffe makes a welcome reappearance as manager; Jack Hylton, comedian; Daisy Lake, soprano; Frank Hook, comedian; Arthur Aldridge, tenor; and A. W. Parry, solo pianist and accompanist.

ROCHDALE.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Mr W. Robinson and Mr Otto C. Culling; Resident Manager, Mr Charles Clucas.—*The Rajah* occupies the boards here this week. Mr Horace Buckley is highly amusing as Horatio Chicks; Mr W. H. Montgomery appears as Ernest Travers, and sings in a powerful style; Miss Nellie Ingham is a favourite as Eliza; and Madame Constance Bellamy is heard to great advantage as Primrose. Other parts in trustworthy hands are submitted by Mr John Levy as Mr Stubbs, Mr Arthur Reid as Captain Hertage, Mr H. Neville as Ted Perkins, Mr George Scully as Thistles, and Miss Minnie Blackmore as Edith.

RUNCORN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr H. W. Caddick.—Mr Fred Cooke is on a welcome return visit with *On Shannon's Shore* and *Diver's Luck*. The former was staged on Monday to a crowded house. Mr Fred Cooke is as versatile as ever as Barney, his quaint humour being much enjoyed. The persecuted Hyacinthe O'Neale is well enacted by Mr Sydney Grant; Mr Ernest Laceby proves eminently capable in the heavy rôle of Furlough O'Hanlon, and Mr Del Leone presents an interesting portrait of Gerald O'Neale, the Shaun Dhu of Mr H. P. Kennedy being also much liked. Mr Walter Cooke is a further important acquisition as Captain Clinton; Miss Gladys Gilchrist is still to the fore with a well-studied representation of Mary O'Shanahann; Miss Doris Cameron is suited in every way as Nora O'Reirdon; and Miss Norah Temple is effective as as Biddy Brady.

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director-Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—Mr James Stillwell and company are here this week with the sensational drama *Queen of the Night*. Mr Stillwell is a manly Frank Featherstone, and Mr A. C. Campbell excels as Philip Stoneleigh. Mr E. D. Allen is a capable Old Briskett, and Mr Richard Webb scores heavily as David Pentreath, the miser. Mr Paul E. Teulon is a breezy Jack Trent, and Mr Edgar Morgan is very humorous as Adolphus Briskett. Miss Zana St. George is pleasing as Maud Sylvester, and Miss Katherine Barnett is very natural as Mary Pentreath. Miss Annie Gill scores as Mrs Adelaide Briskett, and Miss Lizzie Lennon sings and dances with acceptance as Kitty White. Miss Kathleen Coleman as Paulina is responsible for a highly finished rendition of a delicate and difficult rôle. The scenery and effects are very appropriate and effective.

TOWN HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—The American Biograph Company is here for a short season, the pièce de résistance being an excellent film of the great wrestling match between Georges Hackenschmidt and Madrali. An excellent variety company is also engaged, special mention being thoroughly deserved by Mr W. C. Gillin, ventriloquist; Mr G. W. Osborne, the musical director, being also deserving of praise.

RUGBY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Kingsley.—This week an excellent variety company is appearing here, and amongst the artists specially worthy of mention are Miss Florentia Glynne, who has a beautiful soprano voice, and renders several songs in artistic style; Miss Bertha Kendall, who is very successful; La Belle Tosca, who gives a first-class exhibition on the wire; Harry Carlton, eccentric comedian; Charles Valvo, ventriloquist; Fred Byrne, comedian; Beautiful Vanda, who gives a clever exhibition of juggling and equilibristic ability; and Jackson and May, who score a great success in their cycling feat of "Hooping the Hoop."

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—Mr T. Morton Powell's company is here in *Greed of Gold*. Villainy was well presented by Mr Murray York as Harry Hood. The hero, Arthur Errol had a manly exponent in Mr Wilson Summers; Miss Edith Wallis was charming in the leading part of Dora; and Miss Grace St. John also did well as Mrs Mary Maxwell. The drolleries of Mr Walter M. Cameron as Cull Snig, Mr T. Breen as Conn Creamer, and Miss Winnie Donovan as Patty Mayfield kept the house in excellent humour. As the child, Cecil, Miss Florrie Woods was all that could be desired. Mr T. G. Warry as Mr Brightson, K.C., Mr B. Fax as Tom Wolstead, Mr Ernest Bright as Mee-Chow, and the other members of the company give good support.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Staig's sensational motor racing in the air round a suspended bottomless track heads an excellent bill this week. Mr Harry Conlan has some very amusing songs and patter; Lily Flexmore's extraordinary legmania contortions and dancing are duly appreciated; De Henau is an expert with his toes in painting, eating, drawing a cork, and playing the bells. The other clever turns include Mons. Vincent, acrobatic table expert and arab tumbler; Aladina, with her wonderful troupe of performing cockatoos; the Luppa Trio, in a triple bar act; Hector and Paulus, refined comedy equilibrists; Clarke's Nippers, in their speciality act; and the animated pictures.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead.—A capital programme here this week includes Otto Schumann, with Miss Mona Mona, in their circus act with highly-trained horses, ponies, and boarhounds; the Moxon Family, in their musical and acrobatic displays; the Three Darrells, in musical act; Larry Lewis, amusing comedian; Max Sterling, clever illusionist; Mueller and Coyne, novelty entertainers; the Three Shamrocks, vocalists and dancers; Alba and Amba, amusing comedy jugglers; Lyle and Lena, coon singers and cakewalkers; and Alf Brooks, comedian, with the animated pictures illustrating William Tell's well-known adventure with the Tyrant Gessler.

L. AND N.W. PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietress, Mrs S. A. Higham; Manager, Mr Sam Higham.—Mr Arthur Roscoe, a clever vocal comedian, heads the programme; and is followed by equally successful performers, including Mr Johnny Malone, Irish comedian; Miss Pattie Transfield, serio; and Mr Arthur Melrose, descriptive vocalist.

SCARBOROUGH.

SPA.—Manager, Mr Fras Goodricke.—The company's band, under the direction of Mr Charles Godfrey, jun., has now commenced playing on the Promende. An excellent programme is provided, and appreciated by an increasing number of visitors.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietress, Mrs Henry Mayhew; Business-Manager, Mr F. P. Morgan.—Mr Douglas Bruce's company is here fulfilling a six nights' engagement in the play *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Miss Gladys Newcombe makes a lively Tilly Vane; Miss Ethel Bracewell is a charming Constance Cornell; Miss Helen Ingelow acts well as Nellie Meadows; Miss Nellie Oliver's rendering of Barbara Wade was good, and worthy of high praise; Mr Will Corrie as Toby Turner is most amusing; Mr W. Fraser-Brunner is successful as Cuthbert Lumley; Mr E. Eardley Howard is a capital Dr. Weston; Mr George Gaisford as Jack Livingstone deserves to be commended, whilst special mention is due to Mr W. E. Griffith's acting of Jack Meadows.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Quinton Gibson.—Amongst those appearing here are the following capable artists:—The Five Rhynes, acrobats and dancers; Miss Marie, comedienne; the Clown Babo's Nippers; Charles Clifford, vocalist and harpist; Dave Halle, vocalist; Bonz, contortionist; Dazzlet, juggler; the Kidnapper; Calile and Walker, comedians; and the Sisters Hula.

PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr W. Kitchingman.—The twelve hours' varied and continued programme is of great attraction. The Cairo orchestra, under the conductorship of Prof. Adolph Voorzanger, is most popular, the singing of Miss Florence Lambeth is admired; Prof. Dickinson, Miss Queenie Johnson, Miss Bessie Jones, Miss Billington, and Miss Gladys Dickinson give a fine display of fancy and scientific swimming; the Robertsons make a great hit in their humorous sketches; the Melvernes give an enjoyable marionette performance; the Savaros are good gymnasts; Newling Major is a capital ventriloquist. A. M'Askell, conjurer; Amazoe, comedian; and Miss Issa Steel must also be mentioned.

ARCADIA AND OLYMPIA.—Directors, Messrs Imre and Albert Kiralfy.—The programme continues the same as last week. The audiences are good.

SHEERNESS.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr T. G. Transfield; Secretary and Manager, Mr Chas. Melvin.—Muly Mahmoud's troupe of acrobatic Arabs give a neat and clever performance here. Scott, ladder king, is much appreciated; Cyrus, with his highly trained donkey, is eminently successful, and the Brothers Ralston, descriptive comedians, are well received. Pat Fay, one-legged comedian and dancer, contributes a smart turn; and Mr

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, May 30, the Farce, in Three Acts, entitled
"ARE YOU A MASON?"

The patrons of the Pavilion this week are getting their fill of mirth from that amusing farce, *Are You a Mason?* The well-sustained interest of the three acts is one of the strongest points in its favour, and once the action of the piece gets going it is one long laugh throughout. Naturally, in plays of this description, much depends on the interpretation, and it is pleasing to be able to compliment the members of Messrs George Edwardes and Charles Frohman's company on the even merit of their performance. Mr Spencer Trevor as George Fisher, who is called upon to represent the French milliner, plays with remarkable aptitude, and fairly revels in the amusing situations which fall to his lot. Mr W. E. Richardson appears with success as Amos Bloodgood, and extracts all the fun possible out of this eccentric and humorous character. As Frank Perry Mr George F. Tully does good work, and makes the most of the Masonic mysteries business. Mr Tom Mowbray gives a vigorous performance of the Yorkshire farmer, John Halton, and Mr John Ryan does good work as Police-constable E 000. Mr Frank Ridley submits a clever characterisation of the broken-down tragedian Hamilton Travers, and the many comical situations in the part are well sustained, whilst the limited opportunities offered by the rôle of Ernest Morrison are taken full advantage of by Mr Talbot Homewood. Miss Helen Palgrave is to be praised for a very admirable assumption of Mrs Caroline Bloodgood, the way in which she domineers over her husband giving cause for great merriment. Miss Blanche Massey plays Eva (Mrs Perry) with grace and refinement; her capital acting contributing much to the success of the piece. The Sisters Annie and Lulu are rendered in sprightly style by Miss Lily Beagle and Miss Isla Glynn, two young ladies who have the advantage of an attractive stage presence, as well as dramatic ability. Miss Lucy Edwin is excellent as the Hibernian servant Lottie, and Miss Gertrude Spencer does exceedingly well as Fanchon Armytage, whilst Miss Mabel Ormonde is both natural and effective as Mrs Halton. The farce is preceded by the comedietta *Hushed Up*, which is well performed by Miss Isla Glynn, Miss Mabel Ormonde, Mr Talbot Homewood, and Mr Tom Mowbray. Special mention must be made of the fine programme of music, including the overture "William Tell," and dances "Henry VIII." (German), given by the excellent Pavilion orchestra, under the able direction of Mr Charles Aves.

THE SURREY.

On Monday, May 30, for the First time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Augusta Tullock, entitled,
"THE CONVENT BELL;
OR, THE SECRET OF SINNERS POINT."

Phillip Vautier	Mr CHARLES HOMER
Colonel Vautier	Mr CHARLES E. HOWELL
Henri Cassella	Mr EDWARD HOWARD
Captain Drummond	Mr LEWIS THOMPSON
George Fireater	Mr FRED THOMAS
Jean	Mr DAN CLIFFORD
Pickle Pods	Mr HARRY TILBURY
Warder	Mr PERCY WILLIAMS
Huggins	Mr L. MANVILLE
Susette	Miss BELLE TILBURY
Christine Valgrave	Miss EMILY HUBY
Lady Mother	Miss AMY BARTLETT
Sister Gertrude	Miss ISABBEL TRETON
Marguerite Courier	Miss MAUD HASTINGS

Music and melodrama go blithely on their way at the Surrey this week, where *The Convent Bell* is given for the first time in London, having been produced under its secondary title of *Sinners Point* at the Theatre Royal, Sunderland, in the April of last year. All the comic characters vocalise on the slightest provocation, the hero indulges in ballads even at the direst hour of his persecution, and the villain, we are sure, would break into song but for the injury to his reputation. The mirth and melody thus obtained form a welcome relief to the heaped-up horrors of the play, which faithfully follows the dramatic course mapped out by tradition. It opens in the fishing village of St. Germaine, where dwell the wealthy Colonel Vautier and his ward, Marguerite, the affianced wife of the Colonel's son, Philip, with whom the father had parted in anger some years before. The breach between father and son is widened by Henri Cassella, the Colonel's steward, who intercepts Philip's letters, and urges his master to disinherit him. To this course the Colonel will not consent, so Cassella kills the old man by opening a vein in his wrist while he is in a fainting fit. Burning the original will, he produces another in favour of himself, and, guiding the hand of the dead man with his own, he traces his signature on the parchment. Scarcely has the ghastly deed been completed, when the lifeless hand becomes mysteriously illumined and moves about as though repeating the action, while through the dim light a naval officer appears and a deep voice is heard admonishing the murderer that the dead hand will haunt him day and night. The naval officer later materialises in the person of the Colonel's son, Philip, who returns to claim his inheritance, declaring that he has seen in a dream the details of the crime. He is greeted coldly by Marguerite, who has been led to believe that Philip is already married to Christine Valgrave, a woman whom Cassella had betrayed and deserted years before, and who told the lie on condition that Cassella kept his promise of marrying her. The woman, mistrusting Cassella, writes a confession of his crimes, and hides it in the bell of the convent of Sinners Point, inhabited by a community of women who care for the convicts of the neighbouring prison. Christine is met by Cassella, who stabs her, and fixes the blame upon Philip. Despite the fact that the injured woman herself testified to his innocence with her dying breath, and that his sailor servant also gave similar evidence, Philip is sent to penal servitude with his man, but both succeed in making their escape by means of a boat which Marguerite and her friends have provided. Philip gains the shelter of the convent, where the villain and the warders search for him in vain. Eventually the convent-bell is tolled to call out the guard and capture him, whereupon the confession of Christine Valgrave is discovered, and fully establishes Philip's innocence.

Mr Howell Webb's company suited their acting of the piece admirably to its requirements, playing the respective parts with the force and energy in keeping with the character of the incidents portrayed. Mr Charles Homer as the minstrel hero, Philip Vautier, preserved the chivalrous nature of the part throughout, never straying one iota from the paths of rectitude. He managed a pleasing tenor voice skilfully in "The Dear Homeland" and other ballads, and supplied a personable embodiment of the gallant naval officer. His popularity with the audience was rivalled by Mr Harry Tilbury, who, as the jolly tar, Pickle Pods, neglected no opportunity to create laughter. He has a droll method of acting which brought out all the points of his humorous songs, and rendered them irresistible. He had an energetic auxiliary in Mr Dan Clifford, who made Jean, a page-boy "very tired" by profession, but very active in the cause of mirth, to which there was no limit while he was on the stage. To him also was accorded a warm reception for his songs, encores being liberally bestowed. Similar honours fell to Miss Belle Tilbury, whose maid-servant, Susette, was full of life and briskness, her piquant lilts being appreciated with zest. Miss Maude Hastings bore her afflictions bravely as the heroine, Marguerite Courier, being quite equal to the impassioned acting demanded by the rôle, and gaining a permanent place in the sympathies of all. As the ill-fated Christine Valgrave Miss Emily Huby presented the character of the erring woman in glowing colours, being very impressive in the pathos of the later phases of the rôle. The iniquities of Henri Cassella had adequate presentation at the hands of Mr Edward Howard, who admirably suggested the cowardice and dread of the scoundrel pursued by the apparition of the "dead hand," his abject terror being well simulated. Mr Charles E. Howell gave a well-studied embodiment of the dying Colonel Vautier, speaking his lines with praiseworthy clearness; Miss Amy Bartlett brought into prominence the smaller part of the Lady Mother of the Convent; Mr Percy Williams made the speeches of the warder in the convict settlement strike home invariably; and the other parts all had fitting exponents. The sets were well designed and executed, some of the contrivances used in the production being ingenious and effective, and the audience followed the piece with interest, showing frequent and unmistakable signs of approval.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, May 30, the Domestic Drama, by Frank Lindo, entitled
"HOME, SWEET HOME."

Mr Frank Harding's company met with a good reception on Monday evening, giving an excellent performance of this successful domestic drama. The play was produced in May of last year at the Carlton Theatre, Greenwich, and the favour with which it has been received has induced Mr Harding to send it again on tour. The plot contains much that appeals to one's innate feelings, and it is followed by the audience with a deep amount of sympathetic interest. Miss Louisa Peach is responsible for the arduous part of the weak-willed wife, and once again proves herself to be an actress of first-rate ability. Mr Veron Sansbury plays the character of Stephen Armitage, and gives a skilled display of the anguish borne by the deserted husband. Manly and vigorous, his representation is a most natural one. Mr Frank Lindo as the weather-beaten and rugged old boatman, David Armitage, is excellent, and he thoroughly deserved the applause that greeted his work. The Duke of Ancaster receives dignified treatment at the hands of Mr W. G. Blunt, and the Hon. Percy Ashfield is well impersonated by Mr Harry Barford. Mr Frank Harding gives a polished performance of Lucas Lyle, the villainous private secretary to the Duke of Ancaster, and Mr Fred Withers is effective as Solomon Keary, whilst Mr George Overs acts the part of Dick Redmayne in a highly commendable manner. Mr Lionel Gilette plays an old countryman very well, and Mr H. Grossmith is good as the Marquis of Silvermore; Miss Nannie Meade represents the character of Sybil Fay, the wife of the Hon. Percy, and erstwhile music hall star, in spirited style; Miss Annie Travers plays the part of Lady Summerton in a capable manner; and the rôle of Dr. Granby is delineated by Mr H. Denby. Last, but not least, mention must be made of the good work done by Miss S. Berzant, who sustains the character of the child Dora in a natural and very pleasing fashion.

GRAND THEATRE, FULHAM.

On Monday, May 30,
"THE RAKE'S WIFE."

Mr Herbert Sleath's powerful company, including himself, Mr Ernest Leicester, and Miss Cynthia Brooke, have held the boards at the pretty Fulham theatre this week. Mr Herbert Sleath strikes the right note of high heroics as the somewhat weak minded Jack Willis, and acts with verve and conviction, suiting the action to the word. Miss Cynthia Brooke looks so sweet and handsome as the sometime sinful adventuress that we can but condone her wickedness, especially as she dies repentant in the arms of her paramour's wife, lisping out the prayers of her childhood and protesting her inability to fight against heredity, crime, and the fatalism of her birth. Miss Brooke certainly shines in a part beneath her powers. Mr Ernest Leicester makes a profound impression in the part of the rough, right-hearted, plain-speaking Tom Birch, who, as aforesaid, is burdened with an utterly "impossible" help-meet. Miss Eileen Concanen acts with spirit and grace as the wronged wife, née Midge Barnett, and makes it appear that any man has very poor taste to desert her for another woman. Miss Rose Dearing contributes a characteristic comedy performance as the "sorry wench" Martha Anne, in whom matrimony effects such a wondrous change, and Mr Dallas Welford (an old favourite here) ably assists her in the provision of low comedy. Indeed, his part of the "thrice"-widowed Christopher Crawl is well and wittily conceived and capitally acted. Mr Willie Atom, the miniature comedian, has to be content with a very small part as Kit Casey, a jockey, but he manages to get a laugh out of it. Mr E. Edward Ferris is every inch a thorough villain as the consummate scoundrel and false friend Herbert Kennedy; and Mr Martin Henry (who is also business-manager) throws himself thoroughly into the part of the despicable card-sharper Isaac Hermann, alias "Dickie." Mr Herbert Cottesmore is good as David Barnett, a wheelwright; and the same must be said of Miss Kathleen O'Connor as his amiable spouse. Other small parts are creditably played by Messrs Hastings Lynn, Charles M'Closkie, Katherine Romsey (as Nance Birch), Florence Wix, Edna Knollys, Haidée Fitch, &c. Mr Herbert Cottesmore fulfils the duties of stage-manager. The play is produced under the supervision of "the author" (sic), set down in the programme as Helen Wade and Frank Herbert.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, May 30, the American Drama, in Five Acts, by S. F. Cody, entitled
"THE KLONDYKE NUGGET."

The return visit of Mr S. F. Cody's company to Mr William Bailey's popular Marylebone playhouse has been attended with marked success. In more senses than one Mr Cody made a big hit with his marvellous exhibition of rifle shooting, this being one of the features of the play. Mr Edward Leroy was responsible for a powerful rendering of Sam Deats, his acting being of that finished description that always commands respect. As Joe Smith Mr Vivian Cody played with an earnestness that soon made a good impression, and Mr Leon Cody was equally successful as the staunch Indian chief Waco. Mr Tom Gilmore played in a delightfully natural way as Dr. Paddy O'Donohue; Mr Arthur Moreton was sufficiently dignified as Judge Matherson; Mr F. W. Mussett was an excellent Bill Sykes; and Mr Doc Horsfall did well as the old trapper, Tom Lee. As Rosie Lee Madame Lela Cody played in her usual attractive style, and Miss Ivy Luck was a pleasing and capable Nellie. The rest of the characters were all in competent hands, and the scenery and mounting were beyond reproach. Mention must be made of the five specially trained ponies and donkey.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, May 30, the Play, in Four Acts, entitled
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."

Mr Charles Frohman's company, from the Lyceum Theatre, is presenting this thrilling play for one week, being, as the programme announces, "an hitherto unpublished episode in the career of the great detective, and showing his connection with the strange case of Miss Faulkner." Excitement reigns supreme from the rise of the curtain until its fall, and the ease with which the hero follows up the most minute clue or extricates himself from what appear to be extremely dangerous positions, is a cause of breathless wonderment to the large and appreciate audiences that fill the theatre nightly. Mr Julian Royce as the hero in question is all that can be desired, and makes his points with unfailing effect; the Dr. Watson of Mr Kenneth Rivington is a well thought-out and very capably acted character, and the part of Professor Moriarty is excellently played by Mr Chris Walker. Mr Chas. Gray as John Forman and Mr Harry G. Wright as Billy both deserve special mention; Miss Nannie Bennett as Alice Faulkner is both tender and convincing, and the Misses Margaret Kilray and Ivy Hertzog are extremely well suited in the parts of Mrs Faulkner and Madge Larrabee respectively. The minor characters are all capably rendered, and the mounting is quite up to Mr Frohman's high standard.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, May 30, the Play, in Five Acts, entitled
"OLD HEIDELBERG."

Mr Rudolph Bleichmann's adaption of Meyer-Forster's play of German student life, *Old Heidelberg*, is proving a big draw here this week. A capital company under Mr Mouillot's direction is engaged in presenting the play, and they all thoroughly enter into the spirit of it, and exactly hit off the idea of this excellent comedy. Mr Claude King appears as Karl Heinrich, and he gives a first-class portrayal of the character. He thoroughly enters into the part, and plays throughout in an easy manner. Mr Dudley Clinton, whom many will remember by his playing of the Tramp, in *A Message from Mars*, undertakes the rôle of the old tutor, Dr. Juttner, and a more finished piece of work it would be difficult to find, he quite endears himself to all by his portrayal of the lively old professor. Kathie has a particularly pleasing exponent in Miss Irene Lavington, who is in every way excellent, more so, perhaps, in the pathetic parts, which she handles admirably, and is, moreover, most natural. Mr Eric Phillips is dignified as Von Haugh, and Mr F. M. Cross is good as Von Passage. Mr Lionel Gadsden deserves unstinted praise for his embodiment of Lutz, the pompous valet. It is a most creditable performance. Mr Alex. Johnston is capital as the leader of the students, who one and all play in a breezy manner, and the various songs they give are much appreciated. Kellerman, a diverting character, is amusingly played by Mr Alec Murray, Mr A. M. Moore is well placed as Ruder, and Miss Gwilma Court as Frau Ruder and Miss Edith Leyland as Frau Dorffel also give a good account of themselves. The remaining parts are all in competent hands. The scenic effects are exceedingly pretty and the uniforms and dresses most tasteful.

THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, May 30, the Comedy, by Harry and Edward Paulton, entitled
"NIOBE."

Pleasant memories of the Strand Theatre are revived by the production of Messrs Paulton's exceedingly laughable comedy at the King's, particularly with Mr Harry Paulton to give point to his original conception of Peter Amos Dunn. Mr Paulton has surrounded himself with a capable company. Cornelius Griffin is agreeably impersonated by Mr Harry Paulton, jun. Mr Robert Whyte, jun., makes the most of his opportunities as Philip Innings. Exceedingly good is Mr Fred Winn in his picture of Jefferson Tompkins, an art enthusiast. Mr A. Serrington is a capable Parker Sillocks. As Mrs Caroline Dunn Miss Kate Turner is charming. Miss Elsie Trevor gives a very able rendering of Helen Griffin, who terrorises the household. A vivacious Hattie Griffin is Miss Agnes Paulton, and Miss Rose Snell is an engaging Beatrice Sillocks. Mary, the maid, and Madeline Mifton are in the good hands of Miss Annie Marrian and Miss Grace Massey. Miss Kate Connaught is quite successful as Niobe (in the flesh), and excites the genuine laughter of the audience by her blissful ignorance of modern manners and customs. A play in one act, entitled *Villain and Victim*, by W. R. Walker, helps to entertain the early visitors to the theatre.

SHAKESPEARE, CLAPHAM-JUNCTION.

On Monday, May 30, the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, by Fred Bowyer and W. E. Sprange, with Music by John Crook, entitled
"THE NEW BARMAID."

This delightful musical comedy has lost none of its freshness since its memorable production at the Avenue Theatre. It has now toured the provinces for a long time, and it ought to keep "going strong" for years longer. The scenery and dresses are new and admirably artistic, and Messrs Alexander Loftus and Jack Dale's company is a very able one. Miss Amy Augarde, in her original character, Ethel Joy, the new barmaid, has an excellent voice, and her interpretation has improved. Mr Harrison Brockbank takes the part of Captain Lovebury, which he played at the Avenue Theatre for nearly a year, and Mr Joseph B. Montague keeps the house in a roar with his amusing interpretation of his original character, Bertie White, the famed song, "A little bit of sugar for the bird," with many new topical verses, gaining, as usual, many encores. Mr Jack Dale capably represents the part of William White, head waiter at the club, and Miss Maud Terry as Dora Heather, a lady journalist, sings and dances well. Miss Hilda Blanche as Brenda Louth, the old barmaid, and Miss Jean Gilmore as Lady Moulton do exceedingly well. Mr Wilfred Howard suits the part of Colonel Claymore, and Mr Sidney Vincent as Monsr. Bonsor, proprietor of the club, is a very skilful dancer. Miss Violet Osmund also deserves praise for her dancing, and in minor parts Miss Vic Charlton, Miss Ethel Kenyon, and Messrs Norman Bowyer, W. C. Chewd, and A. Malone deserve notice.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, May 30, the Play, by A. W. Pinero, entitled
"THE SECOND MRS TANQUERAY."

A powerful attraction is provided for the current week by the visit of Mrs Patrick Campbell and her specially selected company, who opened on Monday to a large and well-pleased audience. The fame of the play had preceded it, and the great interest evoked by the enterprise of Mr Purcell has been the means of nightly filling this beautiful theatre. Mrs Campbell continues to impress by the excellence of her delineation of the misunderstood Paula, and merits all the appreciation bestowed upon her. It is a powerful interpretation throughout, and one on which she is to be highly congratulated. She is very ably assisted by Mr Aubrey Smith, whose Aubrey Tanqueray is most effective. He has a very firm grasp of the character, and altogether is very successful in his treatment of it. Miss Ada Webster gains the full appreciation of the audience for an earnest and careful interpretation of Ellean, and Miss M. Alison Alexander is deserving of honours for a smart piece of acting in the part of Mrs Cortelyon. An admirable impersonation of Cayley Drummle is given by Mr Orlando Daly, his quiet but genuinely humorous portrayal being a truly able piece of work. In the small but important part of Captain Hugh Ardale, Mr Charles Bryant acts with telling realism and conspicuous success, and Messrs Martin Sabine and Mark Macdermott render useful and creditable assistance as Gordon Jayne, M.D., and Frank Misquith, Q.C., M.P. Miss Rose Dupre gives a natural impersonation of Lady Orreyed; as the bibulous Sir George Mr G. H. Kelly is effective; and Mr Duncan Druce admirably sustains the part of Morse.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, May 30, the Comic Opera, in Three Acts, by Barton White, Composed by Gaston Serpette, entitled
"AMORELLE."

After a plethora of musical comedy a genuine comic opera of the old style provides a welcome and refreshing change, and this change Mr F. W. Purcell has afforded the patrons of his Stoke Newington theatre during the present week by the visit of Mr C. P. Levilly's company in *Amorelle*. A comprehensible and adequate plot, sparkling music, and plenty of fun, are the characteristics of this production, and played as it is with vigour and enthusiasm by the company engaged the performance goes with a swing from start to finish, and dull moments are conspicuous by their absence. In the title-rôle Miss Stella Gastelle is particularly happily placed, and her rendering of the part is a very dainty, chic, and charming one. In excellent contrast to, and no less successful than Miss Gastelle's Amorelle, is the Lesbia of Miss Kitty Cavendish, and her treatment of the part is sufficiently serious without being unduly sentimental. A very clever and artistic performance of the love-sick Marina comes from Miss Madge Avery, who is genuinely funny and thoroughly amusing without in any way yielding to the temptation to extravagance to which the part lends itself. Mr Leslie Stiles is a manly and straigtforward Jules, and his spirited acting and excellent singing are no mean factors in the total success. Of François, Jules' scheming brother, Mr John Morley makes the utmost, scoring with his song in the last act, "The glamour of my uniform." Excellently make up, Mr Fred Seymour is a quaint and entertaining old Dotard. The singing of Mr Gerald Clifford as Lupin deservedly finds much favour, and other small but important parts are well played by Messrs Robert Fairbacks, George Paulton, Maurice Carlton, W. J. O'Sullivan, George Steyne, and Vernon Read, while Miss May Bradbury is a satisfactory and successful Jeanette. Mr Eric Thorne is a warm favourite in Stoke Newington, and his performance of Dr. Napoleon Bonaparte Crow is in no way likely to diminish his popularity. The colossal cheek of the quack doctor is presented by Mr Thorne in the most amusing light, and every scene in which he is concerned is played to a running accompaniment of hearty laughter. The chorus is well up to its work, and the dressing and mounting of the piece are of the best possible. The musical arrangements, under the direction of Mr Harry Rushworth, are carried through without a hitch. *Amorelle*, which has been produced under the direction of Mr Willie Edouin, is an altogether delightful and exhilarating entertainment.

NEW EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, May 30, the Comedy, in Three Acts, by Charles H. Hawtrey, entitled
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."

This evergreen comedy was presented to the Ealingites on Monday by Mr Eugene C. Stafford's excellent company. Though it has appeared here several times before it is as much appreciated as ever, and draws just as good houses. The Rev. Robert Spalding in the capable hands of Mr Geoffrey Guise created much amusement by his eccentricities and his quaint manner and facial expression do the actor credit. Mr Raymond Chester as the aristocratic Mr Marsland looks and plays the part well; and Mr Vivian Gilbert as Harry Marsland effectively utilises his opportunities; Mr W. Hargreaves as the good and large-hearted Mr Cattermole, with a liver, keeps the audience highly amused; Mr A. Austin Leigh as Douglas Cattermole puts in some good work, and makes himself a general favourite; Mr Wilfred Compton as the snobbish tailor, Gibson, is humorous; Mrs Alfred Davis shines as Miss Ashford, the spiritualist; the fascinating Miss Florence Tressilian plays Eva Webster in a lively and thoroughly efficient manner; and Miss Dora Gray, who was to have a benefit here on Friday, when *Jane* was to be produced, plays Edith Marsland with charming effectiveness. The minor parts of John and Knox were in the capable hands of Mr D. Benford and Mr John Macready respectively. The play was preceded by *Good for Nothing*.

THE DALSTON.

On Monday, May 30, the Drama, entitled
"EAST LYNNE."

The vitality of the ever-green drama, *East Lynne*, is being once more demonstrated by the large audiences that are this week witnessing its performance at the Dalston Theatre. Considering that the main theme of the story is sad, and that the present age is one of devotion to a lighter class of entertainment, the continued popularity of the play founded on Mrs Henry Wood's novel is really remarkable. Miss Lilian Dundas plays Lady Isabel, and succeeds in drawing tears of sympathy from the eyes of the onlookers. Mr Percy Rhodes as Francis Levison plays the part of the villain to such perfection that in certain scenes he is roundly hissed. Special mention must be made of Mr Henry Dundas as Archibald Carlyle—in many respects a difficult rôle to play. Miss Ethel Caryllon as Barbara Hare succeeds in fully sustaining the interest of that character. All the minor parts are well sustained.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, May 30, the Musical Play, entitled
"LITTLE MISS NOBODY."

Quite a large audience welcomed to suburbia on Monday night the little lady from the Lyric and Mr Fred Thorne's excellent company in charge of her from the initial week of their tour at Southend. Sundry changes have been made in the play since its production in Shaftesbury-avenue, the most noticeable being its division into two acts, played in exterior and interior scenes, and a general bringing up to date of the whole piece. The composer, Mr Arthur Godfrey, conducted in person. Mr Willie Hartill is a vigorous exponent of the Earl of Cripplegate. Mr Dennis Drew, through an obvious bad cold, did not do his singing powers justice, but played as Guy Cheviot in manly fashion. As the laughter-seeking noodle, Gussie Stilton, Mr Percy Barrow is consistent, and fairly gets the humour out of the part. The straits that Dominie Crockett is put to, and his solace at the hands of beauty, are very humorously depicted by Mr C. F. Cooke. Mr H. C. Barry's methods are eminently suited to the part of the City parvenu, Christopher Potter, and really funny is the embodiment. Great applause is secured by his singing and clever pantomime in the song "The motion of the hand," and again by his insidious rendering of "Come, come, Caroline." Mr H. E. Garden is successful as the vulgar variety artist, Dandy Triplet; Mr T. Jordan causes amusement as the unsophisticated Scot, Jock Jamieson; Miss Alma Allen makes a stately Lady Stilton; and the minuet dance, in which her graceful movements are set off by Mr Barry's funny fooling, is one of the enjoyable bits in the comedy. Her daughter, Violet, is capably impersonated by Miss Dorothy Maxwell. Miss Nellie Bowman proves indefatigable as Trixie Triplet, dancing and singing alike with contagious vivacity. Elsie (Little Miss Nobody) has a winsome exponent in Miss Lily Edmunds, who handles the part with a delicate discrimination. Miss Mabel Dent is bonnie as the Highland lassie, Maggie. A musical treat is afforded by Miss Dora Deane's singing of "The Old Love and the New." Other parts are capably filled by the Misses Molly Tremayne, Perry, Dora Dent, and Clare Vanini. The incidentals and mounting of the production are excellent.

THE CARLTON, GREENWICH.

On Monday, May 30, the Sporting and Musical Comedy-Drama, by T. Gilbert Perry, entitled
"THE SPORTING GIRL."

Miss Maggie Stanton's company is appearing here this week in this attractive piece. In the title-rôle Miss Stanton achieves marked success. Her performance is bright, clever, and amusing, and is greatly appreciated by the audience. Miss Clara Knowles is an interesting Amy Beddow; Miss Amy Bristow plays powerfully and skilfully as Mrs Owen; Miss Gladys St. Leger is a great favourite in the part of Martha; and the same must be said of Miss Marie Lisle as Tilly Tyson. Miss Vera Desmond (Connie), Miss Ruby Weber (Jenn), Miss Madge Riley (Ada), Miss May Cornish (Kate), Miss May Simmons (Muriel), Miss Nora Grey (Jennie), and Miss Florence Butler (Dorothy) are all excellent in their respective characters. Mr George Perry as Mr Penton Hook plays with admirable skill; Mr Marcus De Bourton is very good as Jack Garling; Mr Arthur Lees is an excellent representative of the dramatic agent, Gerald Haynes; Mr Horace Moseley scores as the Rev. John Bunyan; Mr Alfred Russell is a characteristic Marco Castellino; Mr Ben Brown is good as the office boy, Miggles; Mr Will Priestly is a capital Constable Stodge; Mr Edmund Pelham acts well as Alfred Jones; and the same may be said of Mr C. H. Phillips as Mr Allwood. The play is prettily staged.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, May 30, the Drama, in Four Acts entitled
"THE STILL ALARM."

Messrs Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company has been paying a visit here this week the well-written and exciting American melodrama *The Still Alarm*. Mr M. H. Glenville played Jack Manley in a natural and easy style, well calculated to bring out the forceful but carefully self-repressed nature of the character; the strong scene in the last act between Manley, supposedly ill, and the villain, John Bird, was particularly well handled. The last-named character was cleverly enacted by Mr Robert Wilton, whose cool and collected manner, together with a cutting and sarcastic delivery of his lines, was very effective, and quickly earned the loudly expressed disapproval of "the gods." Mr Fred Osmond was genuinely funny as Doc Wilber, his very make-up being in itself most amusing, while he was loyally assisted in the comedy scenes by Mr Tom Beasley as Willie Manley and by Miss Hettie Zillwood as Carrie Wilber, a music hall favourite. This lady's efforts to "make things hum" were much appreciated, and her song in the third act, "Good old summer-time," received a round of applause. In this act also were introduced the Central Brigade Quartet, who gave an excellent account of themselves, their concerted numbers and individual singing giving great pleasure. Miss Florence Palmer was admirably suited as Elinor Fordham, giving a sympathetic rendering of the part, and showing considerable power in the stronger scenes. Mrs Manley was capably played by Miss Mabel Veriton. The drama is well staged, particularly realistic being the scene at the Central Fire Station, the celerity and energy with which the horses are harnessed and the engine got under way adding to the illusion.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, May 30, the Comedy, in Three Acts, by Captain Robert Marshall, entitled
"HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR."

Though the audiences at the Royal County Theatre this week have been numerically limited, chiefly on account of the lengthening days and numerous out-of-door attractions, Captain Marshall's prettily artistic production has had a hearty reception. Interest in the story never flags; and there is a constant ripple of merriment throughout. The handsome picture of an Indian island home is painted by Walter Johnson, of Drury-lane. Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's names are sufficient guarantee of the excellence of the company. Mr James Lindsay, who plays the title-rôle, makes a handsome and dignified representative of the British Government. Mr William Mallalieu also has been well chosen for the part of the Colonial Secretary, the Right Hon. Henry Carlton, M.P., a part that fits him admirably. Mr C. W. Harding looks and acts well as the gallant Captain Carew, and Mr Harold Sims Standing as Captain Rivers and Mr J. Gosset as Major Kildare both acquit themselves most creditably. A clever and most amusing piece of character acting is given by Mr G. W. Thurstans in the part of John Baverstock; Miss Violet Dene makes a charmingly piquant and refreshing Stella De Gex; Miss Violet Barton-Astor wins all hearts by the engaging manner in which she plays Ethel Carlton; and Miss M'Aimee Murray makes a capital Mrs Wentworth Bolingbroke. The comedy is preceded each evening by Capt. Marshall's equally clever one-act costume play *The Shades of Night*, in which the parts are sustained as follows:—Capt. the Hon. Terence Trivett, Mr C. W. Standing; Winifred Yester, Miss Violet Barton-Astor; Sir Ludovic Trivett, Mr Wm. Mallalieu; the Lady Mildred Yester, Miss M'Aimee Murray.

Who's taking care of Baby?

WRIGHTS

with their

COAL TAR SOAP.

It takes care of his Skin!
It takes care of his Health!
It takes care of Mother's peace!

THE NURSERY SOAP.

4d. a Tablet.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR HENRY IRVING'S announcement at the Manchester Arts Club on Wednesday that in two years he will retire from the stage comes almost as a surprise to those who have observed the wonderful health and vigour which Sir Henry retains after his long career of arduous energy and varied effort. Much as he will be missed, there can be no doubt that he has taken the wisest course in resolving, as Shakespeare did, to retire to well-earned repose while still able to enjoy it.

THE first annual festival of Our Dumb Friends' League was held at Queen's Hall on Tuesday afternoon and evening. The entrance hall was crowded with pretty programme girls, under the direction of Mr Hayden Coffin, who all appeared in the lightest of summer dresses. The presidents of the tea-tables were well-known actresses, and of the twelve ladies who collected money during the afternoon on behalf of the fund, assisted by their "show dogs," half of the number at least were members of the profession. Miss Kate Cutler's Skye terrier, Misty, seemed to take quite an interest in the proceedings, but Miss Helen Ferrers's Quex was inclined to make himself heard. Miss Ierne Fitzgerald's very aristocratic Moufflon, Mrs Sam Sothern's Mistress Glory, and Miss Florence Lloyd's Rex were also "billed" to appear on behalf of less lucky dogs. A well-groomed, quiet donkey, with a scarlet saddle and a wreath of roses round his neck, received more attention than any other "dumb friend" at the festival, with the exception of a particularly fluffy little Chow and a magnificent boarhound.

MRS GEORGE ALEXANDER'S tea-table seemed to attract most attention. "The lady of St. James's," who was regretting the unavoidable absence of her husband, was wearing a dainty dress that gave an impression of film and lace over some foundation that was effectually hidden by its light covering, with tiny golden bows on the full bodice, and a very smart hat, adorned with fruit and foliage. Miss Lily Hanbury, who looked, as she said she felt, quite well again, appeared in black silk and lace, with a stole of white feathers, a black picture hat, and a single row of large pearls. Miss Beatrice Lewis, Mr Lewis Waller's sister, lived up to her reputation as a designer of dress by wearing a wonderful costume of smoky grey, with a knotted sash of bewildering tints, a transparent yoke, and very full sleeves.

THE American bar was under the direction of Miss Fannie Ward, who certainly displayed—as she generally does—the most beautiful jewels in the room. Her dress was palest blue with a big tulle hat of the same delicate shade, with a handful of pink roses scattered over the brim. Miss Annie Hughes's table missed its greatest attraction, for "the Country Mouse" herself did not put in an appearance. Mr Conway Tearle and Mr "Harry" Warner were here, there, and everywhere, but Mr Valentine disappeared after his recitation, and Mr Courtice Pounds only waited long enough to take a "call" at the end of his song. There was some amusement behind the scenes when Mr Arthur Roberts vanished while the audience was still demanding an encore, but he turned up again at the tea tables, wearing a big white camellia—perhaps as a disguise—in his button-hole.

MISS ISABEL JAY looked very quaint in a blue frock and high-crowned hat, with a cluster of red roses in front. Miss Vane Featherstone, who takes a very great interest in the league, was one of the most energetic of the tea-table presidents. Miss Lilian Braithwaite—who was both fresh and refreshing in a simple muslin dress with wide lace collar threaded with narrow black velvet ribbon—flitted about and talked to her friends all the afternoon. Miss Dora Barton was much regretting the too short run of *The Rich Mrs Repton*, and Miss Helen Mar told a good little story against herself. It was her fate to be taken in to dinner recently by a particularly dull man, so she tried to cheer him up with a few of her best stories. He listened attentively, but without giving her the encouragement of laughter or repartee. After a while she said to him, "Speaking of stories, have you heard my last?" The dull man looked at her, and answered quietly, "I hope so!" Over £60 was realised for programmes alone, and Mr Hayden Coffin's helpers were, with few exceptions, theatrical ladies. Miss Annie Hughes assisted in the American bar in the evening, and Miss Edna May and her sister, Miss Jane May, gave the whole afternoon to the sale of "soft drinks," as they are called in the United States.

THE marriage took place at Brompton Oratory on Tuesday of Mr J. S. Gregory, of the Foreign Office, and Miss Gwendolen Lind Maude, daughter of Mrs Raymond Maude, and granddaughter of Jenny Lind; the bride is also the cousin of Earl De Montalt and Mr Cyril Maude. Father Bowden and Father Creuse conducted the ceremony. Mr V. F. Maude, the bride's brother, gave her away; and Mr H. Chilton, of the British Embassy, Vienna, was best man. The bridesmaids were four children—Miss Buchan Hepburn, Miss Barbara Murray, Miss Audrey Peto, and Miss Le Maitre. Master Raymond Peto was page. The bride wore a dress of chiffon over silver, with soft satin court train and old Brussels lace veil, which had belonged to her grandmother, Madame Jenny Lind, and she carried a bouquet of selected white orchids and roses, intermixed with orange blossoms specially sent from the gardens of the Vatican. The going-away gown was of cream sicilienne, with green linen collar and Leghorn hat, with pink roses. The presents, over 300, included an old Chippendale card table from Princess Christian and a signed photograph from the Pope. Mr Sullivan-Brook, nephew of the late Sir Arthur Sullivan, officiated at the organ, and the son of Mr Charles F. Taylor rendered a pleasing and appropriate solo.

MISS JESSIE MILLWARD has been appearing at Twenty-third-street and Fifth-avenue Theatres, New York, in a one-act play by Hartley Manners, entitled *A Queen's Messenger*, in which she impersonates a Russian spy, known as the Masked Lady. The messenger is lured to the latter's apartments, where he is stupefied with drugged cigarettes, and his State papers are stolen. When, however, he falls into despair because of the disgrace it will bring upon his sweetheart, the masked lady's heart is touched. She returns the documents and helps the messenger on his way. As the Russian adventuress Miss Millward has a rôle which suits her to perfection, and at both theatres she has met with an enthusiastic reception, being recalled many times after each performance.

MR BEERBOHM TREE has written an important introduction to Mr Austin Freers' forthcoming volume, "A Guide to the Stage." He deals with the controversy which has arisen over his newly-founded School of Acting, and replies pointedly to Mr Wilson Barrett and other critics. The volume will shortly be published by Messrs R. A. Everett and Co. Supplementary articles have been contributed by Miss Gertrude Kingston, Mr Willie Clarkson, and Mr Ben Nathan.

MISS LOUIE FREEAR on her tour, which starts on Monday at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, will play the title-part in *Boy Bob*. The time of the play is the present, and the action is supposed to take place in one day. Boy Bob is a little waif with no kith or kin, whose life is bound up with the regiment whose barracks he haunts—in fact, he is not unlike one of Kipling's soldier boys. He is made a drummer boy, and subsequently learns that he is the son of his captain. He dies to save his father, but keeps the secret of their relationship.

MISS CLAIRE ROMAINE, who is playing the part of Bella, the tipster servant in Mr George Rollit's racing farce, *The Money Makers*, at the Royalty Theatre, is distinguishing herself by giving tips at each performance for the current big races. She has remained faithful to St. Amant since betting on the Derby became general; and many visitors to the Royalty Theatre will probably have cause to thank her for such an excellent gratuitous tip.

THE demand for autographs of theatrical celebrities is, we are glad to notice, increasing, and our charities are in consequence largely benefited. The secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund states that last year the Fund was increased thereby to the extent of £118; and in the current year the sum of £50 has already been received. Miss Marie Studholme has sent the Fund a cheque for £12 10s., £8 8s. of which she collected by means of autographing letter-cards; and Miss Mary Moore, Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr Beerbohm Tree, and Mr George Alexander have largely helped to swell the receipts.

THE Marquis of Anglesey met his creditors by deputy at the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Moorgate-street on Thursday. His liabilities exceeded £544 000. In *Aladdin*, which he produced in the February of 1902, he wore a pink satin doublet and cloak and pink and white tights. Bows of diamonds, big turquoises, emeralds, rubies, and glittering chains of gems were fastened to his doublet, and his helmet was decked with pendant pearls. In the December of the same year, in *Little Red Riding Hood*, in which he represented Bonnie Boy Blue, he glittered with diamonds from head to foot. Last winter he went on tour with *An Ideal Husband*, he enacting Lord Goring. He has also appeared in *A Runaway Boy*, *A Royal Divorce*, and *The Marriage of Kitty*. The Marquis can truly state that his productions were "costumed regardless of expense."

TURNS at the halls are *de rigueur* with the artist who has sufficient popularity; but they are rare with prominent players. When Miss Mary Anderson was at the Lyceum Mr George Alexander used to play at that theatre and the St. James's; and Miss Ada Reeve has been able by permission of the managements to appear both at theatre and music hall. Now both Mr Sidney Valentine and Miss Mary Brough are working "two houses a night." The gentleman who plays in *The Widow Woos* at the Haymarket goes on to the Garrick to play the Judge in Mr Gilbert's fantasy *The Fairy's Dilemma*, and Miss Mary Brough, who also is at the Haymarket with Mr Valentine in the front piece mentioned, is to be seen later at the Savoy in the part of Rosa in *Who's Who?*

MR BEERBOHM TREE'S costume in *The Last of the Dandies*, at His Majesty's Theatre, was made by the son of Count D'Orsay's tailor, who has in his possession the Count's measures, which happen to be Mr Tree's exactly. The hat he wears was made from D'Orsay's block, and the beautiful dressing-case used in the first act was the great dandy's own. It came into the possession of Lady Romilly, who kindly lent it to Mr Tree.

MR CHARLES HAWTREY'S appearances at Proctor's Theatre, New York, in the one-act comedy, *Time is Money*, resulted in a large increase of business. From the Twenty-third-street Theatre Mr Hawtrey takes an automobile to Mr Proctor's Harlem Theatre in 125th-street, and his acting at two houses is regarded as quite a feat in New York, one newspaper having remarked that "Mr Hawtrey knows now what the strenuous life really means." Mr Hawtrey is ably supported by Miss Dorothy Hammond.

SIR HENRY IRVING, when the curtain fell on *Louis XI.* at the Liverpool Royal Court on Saturday evening last, in response to a call, thanked the people of that city for the magnificent reception they had accorded him during his week's visit. "Anything more generous, more inspiring, and more kind than your greeting," he said, "it would be impossible to conceive. I would like to thank the members of the Press and my dear old and loved friends in Liverpool for the acts of very sweet courtesy I have received during my visit. Such a welcome as yours proves that in life there are many compensations." Sir Henry intimated that he hoped to return in November.

"SATURDAY TO MONDAY" is being played at the St. James's Theatre to crowded houses nightly, and is decidedly a success. Mr George Alexander has disposed of the provincial rights to Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison. This will make the eighth company now touring under their very enterprising management. The autumn tour of the company will commence at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, on August Bank Holiday.

MR BEERBOHM TREE'S revival of *The Merchant of Venice* at His Majesty's Theatre in September next will add another leaf to his laurels. When he was manager of the Haymarket, he revived there *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Hamlet* on Jan. 20, 1892, and the first part of *Henry IV.* four years later. At His Majesty's he has mounted *Julius Cæsar* (Jan. 22 1898), *King John* (Sept. 20, 1899), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Jan. 10, 1900), *Twelfth Night* (Feb. 5, 1901), and *Richard II.* (Sept. 10, 1903), all notable and artistic productions.

MR DANIEL FROHMAN, who is in London, has arranged with Mr Pinero to write a new comedy, which will be produced in New York. Mr Frohman has also commissioned Mr Zangwill to dramatise his short story, "A Serio-Comic Governess."

A NEW three-act modern play, by Arthur Hare and Ashton Pearse, entitled *The Lady and the Lion*, will be produced at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, under the management of Mr Oscar Barrett, on Tuesday evening, June 14. The leading character in the piece—that of the Earl of Dulverton, a hard-drinking peer—will be played by Mr Hare himself, and Miss Janette Steer, Mr Thomas A. Shannon, and Miss Dora Fellowes will be in the cast. The play will be produced by Mr Cyril Rawdon.

MISS ANNE BEAUFORT, who has been laid up since last August with hæmorrhage, &c., has been recovering health and strength at a hydropathic establishment at Matlock. During her illness she has had no less than eleven doctors in attendance upon her. She is now happily convalescent; and hopes to be in town shortly, afterwards visiting Switzerland, Germany, and Italy, and wintering on the Riviera.

MR GEORGE EDWARDES'S company, which is at present touring South Africa, has achieved such a remarkable success that it has been decided to prolong their stay in that country. The second Johannesburg season which has just finished has beaten all records. It is interesting to record the success made by the various members of the company, the most notable being Mr Arthur Grover, baritone, and Mr Victor Gouriet, comedian.

MR AND MRS GORDON BAILEY'S company, with *The Second Mrs Tanqueray* and *The Profligate*, under the business-management of Mr Hugh Fleming, starts out on the 20th inst. It includes, in addition to Mr Leonard Pagden, Mr Sydney Stirling just returned from a successful Australian tour; Mr Frank G. Bayley, who has been supporting Nat Goodwin in America; Mr Noel M'Guckin, son of the late Barton M'Guckin, who will sing the incidental serenade in *The Profligate*; Miss Mina Leigh, Miss Noney Seabrooke, and Miss Lola Duncan. The advance affairs will be in the skilled hands of Mr D'Arcy Forbes Winslow.

MR TREE at His Majesty's on Monday revived *The Last of the Dandies* and *The Man Who Was*, which have been repeated every evening this week and on Wednesday afternoon. Mr Tree as the Count D'Orsay repeats one of his most successful performances. Miss Lily Hanbury's old part of Lady Blessington is now played with much charm of manner by Miss Marion Terry; and Miss Isabel Collier is excellent as Henrietta Power. Mr Basil Gill does well as Raoul Ardale, and Mr Eugene Mayeur as Lord Ascot and Mr Dawson Milward as Lord Westerbury give able assistance. Mrs Sam Sothern's Lady Summershire is a highly creditable impersonation; and Mr W. H. Day supplies a capital little sketch of the Count's valet, Octavio. The piece has been shortened by the omission of the riverside scene. *The Man Who Was* affords Mr Tree a fine opportunity for the display of dramatic intensity. Mr Eugene Mayeur succeeds Mr Edmund Maurice as the Russian, Colonel Dirkovitch, and gives distinction to the part; Mr Dawson Milward as Little Mildred again wins approval; and the same remark applies to the Colonel Durgan of Mr J. Fisher White. Mr Francis Chamier's Hira Singh and Mrs Sam Sothern's Millicent are both praiseworthy performances.

THE cast of *Sergeant Brue* at the Strand Theatre next week will include Mr Willie Edouin, Mr Farren Soutar, Miss Olive Morrell, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Miss Zena Dare, Miss Nellie Seymour, Miss Kitty Ashmead, Mr Frederick Lewis, Mr Sydney Barraclough, Mr Edward Kipling, Mr Lennox Lockner, Mr Jack Thompson, Mr B. Brooke, Mr Gilbert Porteous, Mr Arthur Williams, Miss Nina Wood, Miss Gwen Anthony, and Miss Ethel Irving.

MR CHARLES MANNERS states that he is quite prepared to pay £4,000 in the endeavour to establish National Opera. When that sum is gone, however, he intends to stop. Last week 200 continuation school pupils were admitted free to the balcony of Drury-lane Theatre, and thoroughly enjoyed an excellent performance of *Mignon*. Mr Manners' gelatine screen over the orchestra has been replaced by one of red twill, treated with a solution which makes it non-inflammable.

MR LEWIS WALLER has lent the Imperial Theatre for some elaborate and aristocratic tableaux vivants which will be shown at a matinée on Monday to benefit the East-end Settlement in Bromley-by-Bow. The Marchioness of Granby, the Countess of Lytton, Lady Henry Bentinck, Lady Dickson-Poynder, Mrs Adair, Mrs Josceline Bagot, Mrs H. Graham, Mr E. M. Ward, Mr Val Prinsep, R.A., Mr W. Q. Orchardson, R.A., and Mr Frank Dicksee, R.A., will assist.

THE cast of *Twelfth Night* at the Fresh Air Fund matinée at His Majesty's Theatre on Tuesday will include, besides Miss Tree as Viola, Mr Julian L'Estrange, Mr Charles Quartermaine, Mr Oscar Asche, Mr J. Fisher White, Mr P. R. Goodyer, Mr Eric Leslie, Mr Lionel Brough, Mr Norman Forbes, Mr Tree, Mr S. A. Cookson, Mr Francis Chamier, Mr J. B. Fraser, Mr Cecil Rose, Mr William Haviland, Miss Constance Collier, and Miss Cicely Richards.

AT a costume ball in aid of the improvements fund of Charing-cross Hospital, held on Tuesday night at the Albert Hall, a special feature was a dance, "The Revue Lancers," representing the musical plays produced at Daly's Theatre by Mr George Edwardes. The music for this was specially arranged by Mr Herbert Howland. The following took part:—Mr Rutland Barrington, Miss Evie Greene, Mr Harry Ford, Miss Violet Lloyd, Mr James Blakeley, Miss Carrie Moore, Mr Fred Kaye, and Miss Marie Studholme. The Alake and his suite occupied one of the boxes.

MR E. GRAHAM-FALCON, of the County Theatre, Bedford, has purchased the Grand Theatre, Luton, which will be run in future in conjunction with Bedford. The theatre will open under his management on August Bank Holiday.

MR F. R. BENSON'S spring tour comes to an end next Saturday at Oxford, and on the following Monday he will commence a series of flying matinées of the Orestean trilogy of Æschylus for the boys of our principal public schools. Arrangements have been made for visits to Harrow, Tonbridge, Haileybury, Marlborough, and other famous establishments. Performances of this classic at Eton are deferred until the autumn.

MESSRS LENNOX PAWLE and REGINALD J. BARKER will start their summer tour of *Liberty Hall* at the Theatre Royal, Torquay, on Monday. The cast will include Miss Janet Alexander, Mr Loring Fernie, Mr Dallas Welford, and Mr Pawle, whose performance of Todman at the St. James's Theatre two years ago will be agreeably remembered.

MR GEORGE MUSGROVE'S *Belle of New York* company terminates at Bristol to-night its twelfth consecutive tour, which has had gratifying results. The list of skilfully interpolated numbers, which have given such a fillip to the piece, will be added to on the next tour, which opens at Scarborough under the skilled guidance of Mr Charles Thorburn, with Mr Hugh Fleming as advance director.

MISS ANENA WALTON has been engaged by Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson for her original part of Cen-Cen in the autumn tour of *The Traitor*.—Miss Nell Oliver has been re-engaged by Mr Douglas Bruce for the part of Barbara Wade, in *A Girl's Cross Roads*.—Mr Matheson Lang, who has just concluded his second tour with Miss Ellen Terry as Benedick, in *Much Ado About Nothing*, has been engaged by Mr Ben Greet to play Falstaff, Petruchio, and other leading parts in his pastorals during the summer.

MR CHARLES COLLETTE, who made so great a hit at Earl's-court Exhibition on Whit Monday with his famous patter sketch *Hard Luck*, will commence on Monday next, under the auspices of Mr George Ashton, a two weeks' engagement to give the same and other sketches at La Scala Theatre, in the Italian Exhibition.

MISS ITALIA CONTI has been very kindly released from her engagement with Miss Emma and Mr Percy Hutchison's *Mrs Gorringe's Necklace* company to create the leading part in Mr R. Flanagan's grand production of *Old Manchester* at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester. The play represents Manchester 300 years ago, in the time of the Gunpowder Plot. The setting used in the interior of the Seven Stars scene is the original furniture used at the time of the conspiracy.

MISS MARIE AUCKLAND, who will conclude to-night a six months' tour as the Twin Sisters in *The Triumph of Truth*, will resume the rôle in August.—Owing to the indisposition of Mr Alec Murray, his part of Kellermann, in Mr Mouillot's *Old Heidelberg*, has been played this week at the Camden Theatre by Mr Alex. M. Shinnie.

MADAME ALICE BARTH is quite broken down from the effects of a heavy season's work, and is now taking a much-needed rest. At the end of her benefit performance at the Victoria Hall on May 26 she was presented with a silver-mounted tea tray and kettle inscribed:—"Madame Alice Barth, with every good wish from her friends at the Victoria Hall."

A NUMBER of the Mohawk Moore and Burgess Minstrels will give a minstrel entertainment on Monday next, in front of Mr Walter Melville's new drama, *A Disgrace to Her Sex*, to the early door patrons of the Grand Theatre, Islington. The Biograph will be shown from 6·30.

MR MURRAY CARSON'S cast for the dramatised version by Miss Harriett Ford of Mr Stanley Weyman's novel, "A Gentleman of France"—the production of which at the Avenue Theatre has been postponed till this evening—will include Mr Carson himself, Mr George Silver, Mr Travener, Mr J. G. Saunders, Mr J. J. Bartlett, Mr James C. Aubrey, Mr Blake Adams, Mr Annand, Mr Williams, Mr Atwater, Mr Charles Terrie, Mr Brindel, Mr Stanley, Mr O. Barnett, Mr Langton, Mr F. Elton, Miss M. Caldwell, Miss J. Stirling Mackinlay, Miss Dora De Winton, Miss Cull, Miss Iris Libton, and Miss Esmé Beringer.

SO pronounced was the success of Mr Wilson Barrett's present visit to Liverpool, that he decided to prolong his stay at the Shakespeare Theatre, and accordingly since Monday he has given "before crowded houses" *The Silver King*, *Sign of the Cross*, *Ben-My-Chree*, and *Claudian*. On Wednesday, however, still another announcement was made that a third week will be entered upon, when *The Manxman* will be presented by desire, and on Thursday and Friday evenings, and Saturday afternoon, Mr Barrett's new work, *Lucky Durham*, is to be staged for the first time. Such a long sojourn in the city on the Mersey is a record for the popular actor.

MADAME SARAH BERNHARDT, who will appear at His Majesty's Theatre on June 20 in Sardou's latest drama *La Sorcière*, will begin her provincial tour at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, on July 4.

THE programme of the Clement Scott matinée at His Majesty's Theatre on Thursday, June 23, is now complete. Among other appearances it includes Sir Henry Irving, in his original character of Corporal Brewster in *A Story of Waterloo*, and Mr Beerbohm Tree's performance in a new monologue, entitled *Diogenes*, by Mr Michael Morton. Mr George Alexander will be seen in a new character; Mr Arthur Bourchier will take part in a new comic play in one act, by Malcolm Watson, named *The Conversion of Nat Sturge*; and Mr George Grossmith and Mr Weedon Grossmith, in a new duologue, written by themselves. Miss Marie Tempest, Miss Edna May, Miss Ada Reeve, Miss Julia Neilson, and Miss Irene Vanbrugh will also contribute to the entertainment. An interesting item will be a new sketch, adapted by that clever littérateur Mr B. W. Findon from "The Old Curiosity Shop," and entitled *The Marchioness*. Miss Hilda Trevelyan will play the Marchioness and Mr J. Farren-Soutar Dick Swiveller. Mr Edward Jones has composed several numbers for the sketch. Some verses by Mr Louis N. Parker will be spoken from the stage by Mr Forbes Robertson, and programmes with a cover designed by Mr John Hassall will be sold by a number of popular and attractive actresses under the direction of Lady Bancroft.

MR CHESTER FOX, who has been business-manager for several of Mr Charles Frohman's touring attractions, has resigned his position to accept an offer made to him by Messrs Weiner, Limited. Mr Fox's last engagement was with the *Admirable Crichton* company.

ONE of the most agreeable items of the fête at the Albert Hall on Thursday, organised by the Countess of Ancaster in aid of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, was a performance of *The Mousetrap*, arranged by Mrs Kendal. Mr Fred Kerr, Miss Eva Moore, Mrs Beerbohm Tree, Miss Marion Terry, Miss Gertrude Kingston, Miss Annie Hughes, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Mabel Terry Lewis, Miss Maud Hildyard, and Miss May Fortescue took part in the performance, which was received with great enthusiasm. Some lively Pierrot revels were presided over by Mr Fred Wright, jun., and Steadman's Pierrot Choir, from the Gaiety Theatre, by permission of Mr George Edwardes, sang very pleasantly. In the West Theatre Miss Ellis Jeffreys' recitations delighted her aristocratic hearers immensely.

MR LEONARD PAGDEN, who lately created and has been playing on tour the principal part in the new serious comedy, *A Woman's Folly*, has been re-engaged for a lengthy autumn tour. In the meantime Mr Pagden will as Aubrey Tanqueray support Miss Lucy Wilson on her forthcoming summer tour.

MISS ETHEL BARRYMORE, at the close of the brief run of *Cynthia* at Wyndham's Theatre on Saturday, will start for Southampton, and take the steamer which will sail on Sunday morning for New York. After a few days' rest she will go on to San Francisco, arriving in that city within three weeks of her departure from London. In San Francisco she will open at once at the Columbia Theatre, and in November will return to New York to produce a new play.

MR CHARLES MANNERS, after the performance of *Lohengrin* at Drury-lane on Wednesday, announced his intention to invite sympathisers with his project for English opera to form a committee to aid him in directing his season at Drury-lane. No monetary responsibility will be laid on the members.

THE Fund expenses of the American Actors' Home last year were $45,000; the receipts $27,000, leaving a deficiency of $18,000. $12,000—or £1,000 a month for the current year—have to be provided, while the daily expenses are increasing the Fund debt.

MISS MABEL ALICE PURCELL, third daughter of Mr F. W. Purcell, the popular owner of the Alexandra, Stoke Newington, the Marlborough, Holloway, and the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, will be married to Mr Walter Rayner Boughton at one o'clock to-day at St. Andrew's Church, Stamford-hill, N. The happy pair have our best wishes.

THE last Theatrical Football Gala, held at Liverpool, has enabled the committee thereof to distribute among the benevolent funds connected with the profession and the various charitable institutions of the city the sum of £640.

MR OTHO STUART for his season at the Adelphi is gathering round him what promises to be a very fine Bensonian company. Mr Stuart himself will not play any part in *The Prayer of the Sword* nor in any other production at the Adelphi. The cast will include Mr Oscar Asche and his charming wife, Miss Lily Brayton, Mr Walter Hampden, and Mr Alfred Brydone. Mr Hampden, who will appear in the leading character in *The Prayer of the Sword*, recently attracted considerable attention by his representation of Agamemnon, in Mr Benson's touring company. Mr Brydone has been a Bensonian for many years.

MR CHARLES HARTLEY will bring his present tour to a close to-night at the Prince's Theatre, Bradford, and after a vacation of three weeks, will reopen on June 27, on a long tour, which will include the principal watering places and spas in the Kingdom.

MR F. R. BENSON, commencing on Aug. 8, will give, during a week at Exeter, daily performances of Shakespearian plays for the benefit of the Cambridge Extension Association.

MR JOSEPH HUMPHRIES, whose sad death we reported last week, began stage life as an actor in Kiralfy's *Enchantment* at Niblo's Gardens. The second season he was assistant stage manager. Then he went to London with Jey Rial to appear as Lawyer Marks, in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. He was in this play when Mr Frohman engaged him as one of the cast of *Held by the Enemy*. He had staged all of the big productions of Mr Frohman for years. Mr Humphreys, who was only forty, leaves a widow, once a well-known singer.

MR LAURENCE IRVING'S romantic drama, *Richard Lovelace*, will be seen at the Kennington Theatre on June 13, with Mr Irving as the Cavalier poet, Mr James Hearn as Colonel Hawley, and Miss Mabel Hackney as Lucy Sacheverell. The play, which will be produced in San Francisco very shortly by Mr E. H. Sothern, will be preceded at Kennington by the old farce, *The Birthplace of Podgers*, with Mr Charles Dodsworth as the owner of the "birthplace."

MISS EMILY LEVETTEZ, after her long sojourn in Australia and New Zealand, has been taking a well-earned holiday in Ireland. She has now returned to town, and hopes soon to be at work again.—Mr William Trant has accepted an invitation to read Tennyson's "Maud" at the Pharos Club, on Tuesday afternoon, July 5.—A new drama by Mr Wilfrid H. Benson, will be presented for the first time on any stage at the Theatre Royal, Dover, on Monday.

MESSRS J. A. ATKIN (of *A Grip of Iron* fame) AND WALTER HOWE, who lately played Beau Nash with Mr Lewis Waller at the Imperial Theatre, has copyrighted a new dramatic melodrama entitled *A Victim of Villainy*, at the Victoria Hall, Bayswater. Mr W. F. Robson is painting scenery, and the piece will start on its provincial tour in August.

MR FRED G. BROOKE is making a four-act drama of his sketch entitled *A Lost Woman*, and will start a tour with it next spring in the suburbs of London. Mr Brooke's father was the original Jacky, in *Never Too Late to Mend*, when that piece was first toured through the provinces.

MR NORMAN V. NORMAN received a pretty compliment on his recent visit to Brighton. At the end of the second act of *David Garrick* at the Saturday afternoon performance a laurel wreath, bound with white satin, was handed to him over the footlights. Mr Norman has arranged to send *Under the Red Robe* on tour in the autumn and spring, playing Gil De Barault.

AT the Kennington Theatre this week the comic opera, by Meredith Ball, entitled *The King's Diamond*, has been performed. Produced last week at Kingston, the piece has had a friendly reception. Miss Winifred Hare is a delightful Alice Hardy, and her song goes well. Mr George Mudie makes a capital King Charles; Mr François Cellier, jun., does what he has to do as the Earl of Rochester well; Mr Ernest Mozar plays Lord Fostescue, and makes a distinguished-looking lover. Mr Cyril Dane fills the part of Frank Hardy ably; the clever comedy is made the most of by Mr A. G. Poulton as Roger Dunscombe; Mr Elliot Ball is impressive as Martin Fosbrooke; and Mr J. A. Brill is satisfactory as Gideon Fosbrooke. Miss Beatrice Edwards looks charming in male attire, and sings acceptably as Elinor Fostescue. Miss M. Sadie is a lively Phœbe Larkin, and Miss Ernestine Desborough and Miss Marie Westcott sustained the characters of Dorothy and Sybil admirably. Mr Meredith Ball conducts his own music, and the chorus and orchestra under his bâton are admirable.

MR HENRY JOHNSTON, proprietor of that successful drama *The Bank of England*, will produce at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, on June 13 a new and original drama, entitled *Alone in China*.

AT South-Western Police-court, on Saturday, Mr Bert Hammond, acting-manager of the travelling theatrical company playing *Her Second Time On Earth* at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, answered to a summons before Mr Garrett charging him with having assaulted Mr Edwin A. Du Plat, a graduate of St. John's College, Cambridge. The complainant said his wife was a member of the defendant's company. Desirous of seeking an interview with her regarding a private matter, he communicated with the manager through the telephone, and received a reply to the effect that if he attended the stage door he would probably have facilities for accomplishing the object he had in view. He accordingly made his appearance, but, as he was unable to see her or obtain her private address, he made his way to the dressing-room. Mr Hammond stated that he was conducting a rehearsal on the stage when someone told him that there was a man in the ladies' dressing-room. He found the complainant there, and requested him to come out. "I won't come out," he said. Thereupon he (defendant) took him by the shoulders and removed him. The magistrate observed that the complainant had no possible right whatever in the dressing-room, and if he refused to leave the defendant was perfectly within his rights in removing him. The summons was dismissed.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT-GARDEN.

On Saturday last Puccini's opera *La Boheme* attracted the most brilliant audience of the present season. Madame Melba appeared as the heroine and Signor Caraso represented Rodolfo, his beautiful voice and intelligent acting making a splendid impression. Miss Parkina was seen as the saucy Musetta, a part that suited her admirably. The light-hearted characters drawn with such spirit and humour by Murger in his *Vie de Boheme*, were sustained with genial effect by Signor Scotti, M. Journet, and M. Gilibert. The droll scene, where the painter destroys his picture, the poet burns his tragedy to light the stove, and a mock duel is fought excited the utmost merriment by its grotesque drollery and the amusing efforts of the artists. The scene at the Café was another most enjoyable incident. Musetta's pranks and the loss of her slipper, so unlike anything we expect to see in grand opera, aroused infinite laughter and applause. The music allotted to the tenor and soprano had an excellent rendering by Signor Caruso and Madame Melba. The more serious portions of the opera—for example, the gradual fading away and ultimate death of poor Mimi—were given with an amount of tenderness, showing how greatly the prima donna has advanced as an actress. Signor Camso also acted with great intelligence. The ensemble, under Signor Mancinelli, was everything that could be desired. Probably no other opera this season has gone with such spirit and animation as *La Boheme*. The operas given under the direction of Dr. Richter have proved so successful that the famous conductor has been prevailed upon to extend them. They include *Le Nozzi di Figaro*, *Lohengrin*, and *Tannhauser*. After these special performances no more German operas will be given, the season concluding with revivals of Italian and French works.

La Tosca was originally announced for Wednesday, but owing to a cold Mdlle. Ternina was unable to sing, and in consequence Gounod's *Faust* was performed. To make amends for the disappointment the visitors who remained had the pleasure of welcoming the reappearance of M. Plançon as Mephistopheles. He is beyond all question the finest representative of the character on the modern lyric stage, and he gave one of his most powerful interpretations of the part on this occasion. His acting was as striking and effective as ever, and his singing pleased so much that his rendering of the "Gold" song had to be repeated. Throughout the opera the artiste was at his best. Madame Suzanne Adams made an interesting Marguerite, her singing being always graceful and artistic, and Miss Parkina appeared with success as Siebel. M. Dalmores again undertook the part of Faust, and acquitted himself in an artistic manner; and although he has not a voice of great volume, he uses it cleverly, and acts with intelligence. M. Renaud was an excellent Valentine, M. Cotreuil appeared as Wagner, and the Marthe of Mdlle. Bauermeister was extremely good, as usual. The band and chorus, under the direction of Signor Mancinelli, were quite efficient.

"THE EDGE OF THE STORM."

A Drama, in a Prologue and Three Acts, by Margaret Young, Produced at the Duke of York's Theatre, on Wednesday, June 1.

Jim Poulett	Mr FORBES-ROBERTSON
Szentes Istvan	Mr G. S TITHERADGE
Bakonyi Ferenz	Mr FRANK MILLS
Major De Trafford	Mr IAN ROBERTSON
Captain Stent	Mr LEON QUARTERMAINE
Ensign Partridge	Mr J. COOK BERESFORD
Mahomet Ali	Mr JAMES GELDERD
Mootooswami	Mr EDWARD O'NEILL
Captain Hodges	Mr GEORGE SUMNER
M. Pierre Duchamp	Mr HERBERT DANSEY
Szentes Wilma	Miss TITA BRAND
Szentes Leta	Miss GERTRUDE ELLIOTT
Mrs De Trafford	Miss HENRIETTA WATSON
Miss Katie De Trafford	Miss DORA HARKER
Miss Sophia Stent	Miss ANNIE GRIFFIN
Ayah	Miss AIMÉE DE BURGH

Mr Forbes Robertson has made a bold experiment, but it is quite possible that his daring may be justified by results. As a rule, it is a mistake to produce drama or melodrama at a comparatively small theatre previously associated with light comedy. But there are signs of a reaction setting in against the frivolous inanity of so many of our modern productions. It seems probable that the feebly fastidious sentiments of certain critics and first-nighters may not be shared by the play-going public; and, from the enthusiasm with which *The Edge of the Storm* was received at the Duke of York's Theatre on Wednesday, it would appear that a return to stronger fare would be welcomed by a large minority under any conditions.

The Edge of the Storm is a sensational, unsophisticated drama of the sort which is scornfully called "old-fashioned." The motive of the play is Revenge. This prolific theme has been a favourite with dramatists ever since Æschylus. Clytemnestra kills Agamemnon to avenge the sacrifice of Iphigenia; then Orestes avenges his father by killing his mother. There is no knowing how long things would have gone on in this Greek *vendetta* had not Minerva put a stop to the proceedings in the unhappy house of Atreus. The way in which Szentes Leta, the daughter of Szentes Istvan, the leader of the patriotic party in Hungary in 1848, becomes "vowed" to the destruction of the daring Englishman, Jim Poulett, is thus-wise. While travelling in Hungary, he meets Metternich, the arch-enemy of the patriotic party, who is riding straight into an ambush of his foes. Poulett takes the Austrian statesman's place in his carriage; and Metternich, when the attack takes place, rides off, unhurt, disguised as a postilion. The Hungarians, on discovering their error, decide to kill Poulett. For the time, however, they leave him bound to a pillar. Leta, who pities the prisoner, comes in, cuts his bonds, and helps him to escape. While she is gone out to see if the coast is clear, her father returns, and grapples with Poulett, who, in defending himself, stabs the old man to the heart.

Nine years elapse. Poulett has become a prosperous sugar-boiler at Comarlapatan, in India. The Mutiny is brewing, and Duchamp, the Governor of the French station at Gundapur, across the river, is anxious to assist the English if he can. Leta, with her cousins, Bakonyi Ferenz, a young man, and Wilma, widow of Istvan's son, arrives at Comarlapatan. The cousins are on their mission of vengeance; but Leta, by the terrible shock of her father's death, lost all memory of the incidents connected with it. The "duty" of retaliation therefore falls upon Wilma and Ferenz. The former attempts to poison Poulett, but he is saved by the watchful fidelity of his old servant, Mootooswami. Leta falls in love with the Englishman, and they are married; and then her memory returns, and she realises that she is "vowed" to kill him. He tells her to do exactly as she thinks right; and, overcome by her affection and his nobility, she decides against revenge. Ferenz enters, comprehends the situation, and fires two shots at Poulett, missing him, but—apparently—killing Leta. Now, it had been arranged by Duchamp with Mootooswami that, in case of a rising of the natives, he was to fire a pistol twice, which would bring the French troops to the rescue. But Mahomet Ali, the leader of the revolt, assassinated Mootooswami in a rice-field, so the signal was not given till Ferenz's two shots rang out. The mutineers gather round the sugar-boiler's bungalow. There is a thrilling scene of preparation for resistance to the death, and a massacre seems evident. Then the sound of the "Marseillaise" is heard, in march the French, and the little garrison is saved. Ferenz has fallen by the fire of the mutineers, and Leta turns out to be only wounded after all. So all ends happily.

It will be perceived from this sketch of the plot that *The Edge of the Storm* is a stirring, sensational piece which gives opportunity for some earnest acting. The chances supplied to the representative of Leta were taken full advantage of by Miss Gertrude Elliott, who on several occasions displayed emotional ability of remarkable quality. In the very difficult and trying scene in which the young wife realises that her husband is her father's murderer, Miss Elliott acted with a vivid truth and simple intensity which were highly artistic. The test of Miss Elliott's powers was a severe one, and she met it with triumphant success. It is hardly necessary to state that, in the daintier and sweeter portions of the part, she was winning and fascinating in a very high degree; and she looked quite bewitching in the curiously becoming costumes of the "late fifties." Mr Forbes-Robertson reproduced with striking skill the type of Englishman made familiar to all of us by books and pictures, and to some of us by dim early memories. He played Jim Poulett in a masterly and manly way, and the "authority" of his style was very valuable in the rôle. Mr G. S. Titheradge as the Magyar leader, Szentes Istvan, was as vigorous and stern as the character demanded—which is saying a great deal. Mr Frank Mills sustained the unthankful part of Bakonyi Ferenz with discrimination and tact, his delivery of a descriptive speech in the first act being full of spirit and energy. Mr Ian Robertson's features lent themselves excellently well to a capital make-up as the pompous Major De Trafford, and he played the part very effectively, yet without the least exaggeration or over-emphasis. Mr Leon Quartermaine was thoroughly efficient as Captain Stent, and there was a pleasant touch of bright boyishness in Mr J. Cook Beresford's Ensign Partridge. Mr James Gelderd made a very picturesque and imposing Soobadar, and Mr Edward O'Neill acted with skill and subtlety as Mootooswami, Mr George Sumner making a bluff, burly ship-captain, and Mr Herbert Dansey very amiably effusive as M. Pierre Duchamp. Miss Tita Brand as the conscientiously murderous Wilma played with all the needed earnestness and intensity, and made a most impressive female villain, and Miss Henrietta Watson as a brisk, ironical Englishwoman was delightfully crisp and original. Miss Dora Harker was excellent both in manner and appearance as the pretty simpleton Katie De Trafford; and Miss Annie Griffin was quaintly comical as an old maid; Miss Aimée De Burgh doing praiseworthy work as the Ayah. Special praise is due to Mr Joseph Harker, whose two Indian scenes—one in strong sun, the other in moonlight—were very beautiful examples of the scenic artist's skill. Mr Percy Anderson must have employed judicious selection in his designs of the 1857 costumes, which really were marvellously becoming, especially the bonnets. A clever overture, specially written by Mr Frank Korbay, was played in excellent style by the efficient orchestra. The piece was received with enthusiasm and long-continued applause. For some time Mr Forbes-Robertson, who was called again and again, hesitated to speak; and when he did so he wisely contented himself with the statement that the news of the favourable reception of *The Edge of the Storm* would be conveyed to its authoress.

HENRY IRVING AT MANCHESTER.

Sir Henry Irving, who is president of the Manchester Arts Club, was present on Wednesday night at a club gathering and supper after the performance of *Louis XI.* at the Theatre Royal. There was a large attendance of club members to welcome Sir Henry. Lieut.-Colonel H. FISHWICK, chairman of the club, presided, and after the supper proposed the president's health.

Sir HENRY IRVING, who had a most cordial reception, said, in reply:—I have listened very often to your kindly greetings, but they come with perpetual freshness. I can assure you it is a great comfort to a strolling player like myself to know that he can always count upon an excellent meal and a kind word at the Arts Club. We have been at it a good many years—making these old associations it is such a pleasure to renew—and I daresay the younger members of this Club—you must have younger members now and then—occasionally wonder how old the strolling player who keeps on turning up—how old he can be! An actor's age, I am told, is always the subject of sympathetic interest. About twenty years ago, I remember, a lady wrote to me, and said: "Is it true that you are getting on for eighty?" I replied that it was quite true; but I hoped it wouldn't make any difference. The other day I had a letter offering me a play—such things do come sometimes. The author said it was a poetical allegory, and he wanted to cast me in the part of Father Time. I wrote, in what I thought was quite a playful spirit, to say that if I accepted the part I might want to use Father Time's scythe to cut down the other parts. He wrote back in quite a different spirit: "How like an actor-manager!" Gentlemen, the strolling player who is now addressing you for, it may be, the hundredth occasion—I have quite lost count—may strike those younger members as rather like Father Time. But I can assure them that he carries nothing so unsociable as a scythe—only a cigar-cutter. As I look back on these associations of ours, it seems to me there is not a subject relating to the welfare of the stage that we have not discussed together. Endowed theatres—dramatic schools—the dearth of plays—you know them all. The dearth of plays I scarcely dare to mention, because it provokes lively correspondence in the newspapers. Authors write to say that they have masterpieces in abundance which the selfishness of actor-managers will not allow to see the light. But every manager is not an actor yearning for the middle of the stage. Mr Charles Frohman is about as enterprising a manager as you will find; yet, strange to say, he doesn't want to act. But he searches the highways and byways of Britain and America, and I have never heard him complain that he has more masterpieces than he knows what to do with. I see that an ingenious gentleman has been over to Paris to consult some eminent French experts about the state of the British drama, and the only comfort they could give him was that perhaps it might be bettered if the Examiner of Plays would permit dramatists a little more freedom in dealing with vital questions of modern life. But to imagine the Examiner licensing an experiment in freedom, on the plea that it dealt with a vital question of modern life, is to suppose a revolution in English taste. I doubt whether this plan, even if it could be adopted, would let loose a native genius for playwriting, which is now suppressed by our excessive decorum. But the endowed theatre would certainly give a chance to the unacted author. In the success or failure of a play there is often an element of mystery. It springs from some unknown quality in the public mind, with which the longest experience cannot reckon. Now, the endowed theatre—which need not shut its doors when empty—might try a number of plays which the average manager dare not touch. I would suggest, therefore, that the unacted authors should form a league—a league for the cajoling of millionaires, so as to raise the capital for that endowed theatre, which even the superfluous wealth of Manchester has not yet established. If only we could find a millionaire who writes plays the thing would be done. Perhaps he is listening to me now. Out of the fulness of his heart and pocket let him speak, so that the strolling player may pass away from your hospitable board—oh, he'll come back, I hope—feeling that he has achieved a great work, and feeling more venerable than ever. Yes, venerable, perhaps, for it is forty-four years since I first came amongst you—forty-eight since I first set foot upon the stage; and it is at times borne in upon me, and never more than at moments like these, when life has so much that is good to leave, that in another couple of years the time will have come when I must say farewell to the art I have loved all my life. Fifty years of active work as a player is enough; and when I have completed the tally of those years I shall shortly make my last bow to the public, who have shown to me so much love and patience and sympathy; and I shall take with me as I go back from the glare of the footlights a memory which shall be a pride and a pleasure to whatever period of rest may be my lot.

"ONE CHRISTMAS EVE."

New Dramatic Sketch, in One Act, by Lloyd-Townrow, Played for the First Time at the Metropole, Camberwell, on Saturday, May 28.

Bill Barton	Mr LLOYD-TOWNROW
Mary Barton	Mrs LLOYD-TOWNROW
Nellie	Miss DOROTHY TOWNROW

The patrons of this cosy theatre were agreeably surprised on Saturday evening to find attached to their programmes an extra delight in the shape of a pathetic domestic sketch by this theatre's highly-esteemed manager entitled *One Christmas Eve; or, the Blind Wife*, and a Saturday night's audience set on it the seal of an unqualified success. The story, although not quite original, is a most interesting and effective one. It relates how Bill Barton for his many acts of cruelty to his loyal and patient wife is serving a term of imprisonment, and has taken an oath that when he comes out he will kill her, but he does not know that by his last brutal treatment his wife, Mary, is permanently blind. The scene opens on Christmas Eve, and the blind mother goes out into the street to sing to enable her to give their child, Nellie, a little extra pleasure on Christmas Day. The child goes to bed and hangs her stocking in the accustomed place for Santa Claus to find. The child soon sleeps, when a face is seen at the window, which the owner of the visage unfastens with a knife. The noise awakens the child, who thinks it is Santa Claus, instead of which it is her father, Bill Barton, with murderous intent. Nellie's childish prattle tells her father that her mother is blind and has gone out into the street to sing for their Christmas fare, and that she thinks he is Santa Claus. This touches Bill's heart, and he lays the knife aside, and, taking the child on his knee, gives her all the money he possesses, and writes in her copy book this message to his wife, "I will return next Christmas Eve a better man;" and then goes out into the night. The blind mother returns, and, going to light the solitary candle, finds it already lit, and questions the child, who tells her that Santa Claus has been, and reads to her mother the message Bill has left. The mother realises that it is her husband who has paid them a visit, and goes down on her knees in thankfulness to the Almighty, who has turned her sinful spouse away from his foul purpose and saved her life and given her hope, the curtain coming down with Bill looking in at the window at his wife and child in their act of devotion. Mr Lloyd Townrow's portrait of Bill Barton was both artistic and dramatic, and left a profound impression on the audience. As the blind wife Mrs Lloyd Townrow played with genuine pathos and tenderness; while the child part was sustained by Miss Dorothy Townrow with a pretty sense of childish love, feeling, and confidence.

CHAT WITH MISS MAUDE SINCLAIR.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

It would not be far wrong to say that Miss Maude Sinclair was cradled in the drama. Her father, the late E. V. Sinclair, was a well-known actor who is still remembered by the older generation of playgoers. Her mother, too, was an actress, and the young lady herself made her first appearance on the stage at the age of three weeks, when she characteristically played the part of a baby in a farce entitled *Mrs White's Baby*. That occurred at Kimberley, where Miss Sinclair was born, and where the earliest days of her life were passed. When about eight years old she was brought to England, where, in the character of one Little Buttercup, she sang and danced in pantomime. Touring to and fro occupied some considerable time, until a voyage to the West Indies, in the company of her parents, was taken. The little party visited all the islands, Miss Sinclair herself giving a performance consisting of selections on the violin and recitations. She recalls the difficulties of travelling from place to place in the West Indies. In some districts the roads were so narrow that it was impossible for two carriages to pass one another, and they were obliged to have a special coach made, not only for the purpose of conveyance, but also to be used as a sleeping compartment. The floods and storms out there were of a terrible character. On one occasion Miss Sinclair remembers a road being entirely washed away three minutes after their coach had passed along it. Their stay in the islands lasted over twelve months, and on the whole they had a very happy time, while from a financial point of view the trip was a most successful one. Returning to this country, Miss Sinclair played the part of Cissy Denver in *The Silver King* in the provinces for a year, receiving high praise wherever she appeared for her clever handling of the part. She was next engaged for the title-rôle in *Little Lord Fauntleroy*, with which she can be said to have made a name for herself, for she played it no less than 875 times in London and throughout the United Kingdom. She next appeared as one of the girls in the London production of *A Night Out* at the Vaudeville Theatre, and for the following six Christmas seasons she and her sister Mabel took the parts of the Babes, in the pantomime of *The Babes in the Wood*, at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, the County Theatre, Kingston, and elsewhere. She understudied Miss Louie Freear and Miss Hilda Trevelyan, in *A Chinese Honeymoon*, afterwards going on tour with that piece and playing the part of Fifi. Coming back to the Strand Theatre, she played the same part for a few months until the end of the run, her rendering of the rôle showing great promise, and altogether proving most acceptable.

Miss Sinclair, who is a step-daughter of Mr James W. Mathews, the business-manager of the Duke of York's Theatre, considers herself best fitted for character comedy parts. She possesses vocal abilities of a high order, is a talented and exquisite

MISS MAUDE SINCLAIR.

danseuse, and a first-rate violinist withal. For some time she played one of the grisettes, in *Trilby*, on tour, her dancing being much admired and favourably criticised.

But apart from her other accomplishments, Miss Sinclair has a philosophy all her own, and a philosophy, it must be admitted, in which there is a great deal of truth. She wishes to raise her voice in the land against the way in which the drama sometimes suffers when it aspires to the realm of art and literature. "The highest and best art," says she, "is subtle and not fully understood at a cursory glance, in the same way that you cannot appreciate the best poetry or the best music at the first hearing. Can anyone grasp the full strength and meaning of 'In Memoriam' at a single hearing, or Tschaikowski's pathetic symphony from a single performance? Of course not, but that is the precise method in which the drama of the present day is dealt with, for the lines spoken on the stage dare not be literature, and dare not be subtle; they must be so written as to be easily within the comprehension of both stalls and gallery. Certainly, I admit we have had some very rapid successes in the way of theatrical productions, but I liken the pace of popularity of the best and highest art to the pace of the snail—slow, but sure.

"And that brings me to another matter," continued Miss Sinclair, "Acting is to my mind one of the most difficult of the arts, in that the actor can never criticise his own work. The painter can see his picture, and to a certain extent can, without the aid of another party, recognise his faults; or, rather, tell the good from the bad. A sculptor can do likewise, but the player of parts cannot go to the front of the house and see himself act. Therefore, I say that he labours under the disadvantage of not being able to criticise his own work. Of course, he generally has every opportunity of practising his part, but while an actor may play a certain character at rehearsal perfectly, can you guarantee that his acting will be as perfect when he stands before the footlights of a crowded house? To put the matter another way, a brilliant idea may strike you as a writer, and the mood you are in at the birth of that idea may exactly coincide and be consistent with the character of it, but is that sufficient guarantee that when you sit down to make the most of your impression on paper, you will—satisfactorily to yourself and others—carry it out to as successful an issue as you first thought you were capable of doing? Perhaps not, for the simple reason that, owing to psychological conditions over which you have but little control, there has been a change of mood, if not of opinion.

"There is something else I should like to say while I am upon the subject of the actor," added Miss Sinclair, "and that is, that after a lifetime of work—for the most part, very hard work—when he dies there is nothing left to keep him permanently in people's memory. The author's books live after him, because they can be read generations and generations after his decease. So also does the work of the painter, for his pictures can be admired hundreds of years after they are painted. But the actor is only known and admired—if he be worthy of admiration—in his own day and generation. You cannot see him acting on an earthly stage, or understand what he really was, after he has taken his final journey on life's dull round."

THE MOODY-MANNERS COMPANY.

Mignon, by Ambroise Thomas, was produced on Friday, May 27, with complete success. The pathetic and romantic character of the heroine was sustained by Madame Fanny Moody in admirable style, realising fully the simple charm of Mignon's nature. Filina was played by Miss Ada Davies, the supercilious Frederick was represented by Miss Toni Seiter effectively, and Mr Maclennan appeared with success as Wilhelm. A capital ensemble was secured, and the orchestra gave Ambroise Thomas's brilliant instrumentation in a crisp and sparkling manner. On Saturday at the matinée *Lohengrin* was performed, Madame Moody greatly distinguishing herself as Elsa. Indeed, it is not too much to say that her Elsa, both in singing and acting, was infinitely superior to many German representatives of the character. Her beautiful voice told well in the song on the balcony, and her delivery of "Elsa's Dream" was excellent. In the finale of the first act Madame Moody was again both vocally and dramatically at her best. Mr O'Mara, notwithstanding the hard work of the previous week, was quite equal to the part of Lohengrin. Mr Magrath sustained the part of the King with dignity and ample vocal power, Mr Dever appeared as Frederick, and Mr Shallard as the Herald. Miss Crichton displayed intelligence as Ortrud, but lacked the physical power required for the arduous part. The chorus sang splendidly, and in the scene where Lohengrin first appears showed an amount of intelligence in the highest degree creditable. We gladly remarked that the public had awakened to the merits of the company, for there was a full attendance. In the evening Flotow's popular *Martha* again attracted a large audience. Madame De Vere sang brilliantly as the heroine, and Mr John Child appeared as Lionel. The concerted music was given with the requisite finish and refinement, and the choral portions went extremely well.

Gounod's *Faust* on Monday was witnessed by a large audience, the novelty of the evening being the first appearance of a new tenor, Mr Wilson Pembroke, as the hero. Mr Pembroke is the possessor of an agreeable voice of no great volume, and in the exacting address to Marguerite's dwelling, known in the Italian version as "Salve Dimora," he was hardly equal to the vocal requirements. As an actor he has much to acquire, and seen beside the robust and full-voiced Mephistopheles of Mr Charles Manners he appeared somewhat tame and lacking in vigour. Possibly the nervousness of a first appearance may have affected the impersonation. Mr Dillon Shallard represented Valentine with considerable success, and Miss Toni Seiter sang the music of Siebel creditably. As the heroine Madame Moody was entirely satisfactory. Her conception of the part was first-rate dramatically and musically, and her vocal triumphs in the Garden scene enhanced the charm of Gounod's exquisite music. Mr Clendon as Wagner and Miss Gertrude Alexander as Martha completed the cast most efficiently, and in all respects justice was done to the composer. The scenery throughout was a great improvement on the first representation of the opera, the Kermesse scene especially. The band and chorus were excellent under the direction of Mr Eckhold, and the increased attendance promised greater success for the enterprise than at one time appeared possible. Mr Foxton Ferguson, before the rise of the curtain, gave his customary chatty and genial remarks on the opera and its composer.

An excellent performance of Wagner's *Tannhauser* was given by the Moody-Manners company on Tuesday, and we are glad to record the presence of a large audience. Madame Ella Russell was in fine voice, and her rendering of "Elizabeth's Greeting" and "Elizabeth's Prayer" displayed her ability in the most favourable light. In the second act the orchestra was not quite so finished as usual. As the hero, Mr Wilson Pembroke improved on his rendering of Faust, and sang fairly well. Miss Crichton appeared as Venus, and acquitted herself well on the whole. A little more physical power would have been welcome. Miss Florence Easton as the shepherd boy sang neatly. Mr Charles Magrath was satisfactory as the Landgrave, and Mr Dever represented Wolfram. As usual, with this company, we have to praise the chorus without reserve, especially in the second act. Mr Richard Eckhold conducted. *The Bohemian Girl* had been originally announced, but Wagner is evidently at the present day a more potent name than Balfe.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Adeline Lester—Saturday, June 4.
John M. Davidson, dramatist—Saturday, June 4.
Rosie Lena, music hall artist—Sunday, June 5.
E. P. Morgan, actor—Monday, June 6.
Leo Dryden, music hall artist—Monday, June 6.
Walter Bucoleuch—Monday, June 6.
Empsie Bowman, actress—Tuesday, June 7.
Chas. Brady, music hall artist—Tuesday, June 7.
Harry Freeman, music hall comedian—June 8.
J. W. Ellison—Wednesday, June 8.
James Norrie—Thursday, June 9.
Kate Olga Vernon, actress—Thursday, June 9.
J. P. Dane—Thursday, June 9.
Princess Rubie (Mrs Walford Bodie)—June 10.

AT the Borough Theatre, Stratford, on Monday, the play, in four acts, entitled *Under Two Flags*, was performed by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr Mark Blow's company. Mr Blow repeats his sound performance as Bertie Cecil Royellieu, and is always "in the picture" as the handsome, stalwart debonair soldier. Mr Bernard Copping's Lord Rockingham is praiseworthy; Barkis Cecil Royellieu has an excellent exponent in Mr Wallis Clarke; and the rôle of Lord Royellieu is carefully enacted by Mr Charles Brooke. The malevolence of Colonel Chateauroy is vividly portrayed by Mr Charles D. Pitt, and Mr Will Hook as Rake is responsible for much mirth. Mr Leonard Ripley appears to advantage as Captain De Chanrellon and Mr Albert Rogers plays capitally as Ezra Baroni. Success is scored by Miss Constance Elgin, who as Cigarette is the impetuous, courageous, sparkling vivandière to the life. Miss Olive Wilton makes a very graceful and pleasing Princess Corona, and Miss Bertha Kingston is good as Lady Beatrice Guinevere. Other parts are safe in the hands of Miss Leslie Wynne as Lavinia, Miss Joan Stean as Countess O'ga, Mr Fred Court as Marshal of France, and Mr Francis Curtis as Babazum. *Aunt Rebecca*, a one-act farce by Russell Vaughan and Alban Atwood, is the curtain-raiser, and is spiritedly played by Mr Will Hook, Mr Wallis Clark, Mr Leonard Ripley, and Miss Leslie Wynne. Mr Morris Harper watches the interests of the company in genial and able manner.

MR CHARLES HANNAN'S one-act play, *The Gipsy*, recently played at the Court Theatre, has been successfully produced by Mr Leonard Rayne at the Opera House, Cape Town.

BY arrangement with Mr Lewis Waller, *A Marriage of Convenience* will be presented at the Alexandra Theatre next week. Mr Thomas Kingston will be the Comte De Candale, supported by a first-class company, including Mr Ernest Shallard, Mr David Glassford, Mr J. Byron, Miss Violet Addison, and Miss Audrey Ford.

"WHO'S WHO?"

A Farce, in Three Acts, adapted by Sidney Dark from Tristan Bernard's *L'Affaire Mathieu*, Produced at the Savoy Theatre, on Saturday, May 28.

Sir Charles Gerrard	Mr C. W. SOMERSET
Matthew Fortescue	Mr E. DAGNALL
Harold Fortescue	Mr ARTHUR LONGLEY
Inspector Mustel	Mr LAURENCE CAIRD
Sergeant Kitts	Mr JACK ROSIER
Albert Lawrence	Mr SIDNEY HARCOURT
Joseph Slater	Mr IVAN BERLYN
Supt. Baxter	Mr ALLEN THOMAS
P.C. Cherry	Mr HUGH CARSON
Eugene	Mr W. H. ROTHERHAM
Bertha	Miss EILY MALYON
Fanny	Miss NELLIE SYDNEY
Rosa	Miss MARY BROUGH
Clara	Miss FLORENCE HOOTON
Lady Gerrard	Miss FANNIE WARD

The idea of M. Tristan Bernard's piece, in three acts, called *L'Affaire Mathieu*, which was produced at the Palais-Royal Theatre, Paris, on Oct. 24, 1901, was suggested by the trick of some French murderers, who, some time before the inception of the farce, had resorted to the expedient of shutting up the corpse of their victim in a trunk, which they sent to a distance. The Mathieu whose *affaire* supplies the title of the work is an old rakish bachelor, who one day suddenly disappears from Amiens, where he resides. His housekeeper, becoming uneasy, informs the police; and the conclusion is come to that Mathieu has been murdered. As a matter of fact, he has simply gone to André-les-Bains in pursuit of a chambermaid named Rosalie, who is in the service of a certain M. and Madame Godelle. They, being about to visit the watering place, have sent Rosalie on in advance to make preparations. Godelle is very jealous of his wife, Jeanne, who is carrying on a flirtation with Mathieu's impecunious and extravagant nephew, Folarmand. The latter sends Jeanne, as a present, a huge trunk containing even a place for Madame Godelle's pet dog, with holes for the animal to breathe through. Folarmand explains to Jeanne that the trunk shuts without a key, though, to open it, one is indispensable. Godelle returns unexpectedly; and Folarmand, who has got into the trunk to explain its merits, being frightened, lets the lid fall, and is thus made a prisoner. Godelle and his wife are starting for André-les-Bains, and the big box goes with them. An ingenious examining magistrate named Flapeau, having learned that Folarmand was in financial difficulties, and that he has sent an immense trunk to Godelle's house, imagines that the nephew has murdered his uncle for the sake of his inheritance. Folarmand is, of course, missing; and his absence seems a conclusive proof of his guilt.

The second act takes place at André-les-Bains, where the everlasting trunk is seen standing in the lobby of a hotel. A waiter named Blaise, at the instigation of his sweetheart, Rosalie, breaks open the trunk in order, as he hopes, to steal from it some of Jeanne's luxurious under-linen. After being greatly surprised at finding Folarmand in the box instead of the expected petticoats, Blaise gets into it in order to nail it to the floor so as to make it appear heavy. The "mistletoe bough" trick is repeated; and Blaise takes Folarmand's place in the great portmanteau. The lover disguises himself as a waiter; and Borlier, another examining magistrate, institutes an enquiry into the "suspicious circumstances" of the "case." Besides Godelle, Folarmand, and Blaise, a mysterious elderly gentleman staying at the hotel is arrested and examined. This is Mathieu, who is arrested on suspicion of having murdered himself!

The third act of *L'Affaire Mathieu* takes place in the magistrate's room. Borlier is obliged to release his prisoners when Mathieu acknowledges his identity, and the whole *affaire* so carefully investigated, of course, falls to pieces. Godelle's jealousy, however, has been aroused; and Folarmand has to marry Jeanne's sister, Augustine, in order to appease it.

Mr Sidney Dark, in the adaptation of *L'Affaire Mathieu*, which was presented at the Savoy Theatre on Saturday evening, has done little more than alter the names of persons and places, and turn the French examining magistrates into English police officers. In truth, the original is, for a French farce, uncommonly clean, and requires little deodorising. *Who's Who?* had the advantage of being soundly and carefully acted. A decided success was achieved by Mr E. Dagnall, who as Mathew Fortescue, the equivalent of Mathieu, managed to render the old libertine quaint and amusing, and gave altogether a very artistic and clever impersonation. Mr C. W. Somerset had rather an unthankful rôle in that of the violent Sir Charles Gerrard. It almost seems a pity that such a fine dramatic artist and excellent character actor as Mr Somerset should be so unsuitably employed. Mr Arthur Longley as Harold Fortescue, the vapid admirer of Lady Gerrard, gave a clever impersonation on familiar and always effective lines; and Mr Ivan Berlyn, who, like Mr Somerset, won his spurs in serious drama, proved grotesquely amusing as the sentimental porter, Slater. Miss Fannie Ward as Lady Gerrard looked extremely pretty in some very smart and "up-to-date" frocks, and acted with her accustomed vivacity, brightness, and pleasantry. Mr Sidney Harcourt as Albert Lawrence and Miss Mary Brough as Rosa sustained their rôles with the confidence and soundness which we always expect from experienced artists. Miss Nellie Sydney as Fanny was crisp, clever, and expressive; and Miss Eily Malyon was sweet and intelligent as Lady Gerrard's sister Bertha. The performances of some of the other artists would be improved by the ease and accuracy which are the results of repetition. Judging by appearances, however, the piece will not run long enough for them to become "letter perfect."

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW-CROSS.

On Monday, May 30, the Drama, by Walter Howard, entitled "TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS."

This drama is the attraction here this week. Mr W. H. Hallatt gives a vigorous and convincing representation of Commander Noel Tregarthen, gaining well-deserved applause in his chief scenes. Mr Leonard Booker is an excellent Lieut. Richard Redstone, R.N.; Mr Victor Gardom submits an exceedingly good exposition of the part of Captain Tom Yorke; Mr George Cecil Murray is a capital Admiral Grey, R.N.; Mr Oscar Power as Jack Jolly is a characteristic British seaman; Mr Tom E. Sinclair is a warm favourite as Ben Baxter, and causes much amusement; Mr Ambrose Horton is very good as Jim Royston; and Messrs Frank Greyson, Albert Newton, Ernest Brunton, and George Drew all act remarkably well in their respective parts. Miss Blanche Steele gives a very fine impersonation of the unscrupulous Lola Grey, and makes a decided impression on the audience; Miss Marie Daventry is a charming and interesting Mildred Grey; Miss Connie Meadows is a dainty and altogether delightful Lucy Wilson; Miss Dorothy Lennox is a pleasing Mary Primrose; and the two little sailor boys are capitally played by Miss Effie D. Crawford as Cyril Grey and Miss Ethel Francess as Tom Yorke.

MR FRANK WILSON'S *Marriage of Kitty* company has paid a visit to the Crystal Palace Theatre this week. Miss Vera Fordyce sustains the leading part of Miss Katherine Silverton charmingly, her acting being sweet and natural. Sir Reginald Belsize, Bart., is admirably depicted by Mr Frank Wilson, his clever embodiment of a rich young Baron winning all hearts. Miss Phœbe Mercer depicts Madame De Semiano with great spirit. Norbury and Rosalie are well played by Mr H. H. Young and Miss Averil May. The performance was altogether delightful, and drew a crowded house.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

(SPECIAL TO THE ERA)

THERE was a fair attendance at the meeting held last Sunday, at the Salisbury Hotel, St. Martin's-lane, of the members of the Carpenters' Society, to hear a deputation frem the executive committee of the National Union Theatrical Stage Employees with reference to the Carpenters' Society becoming a branch of the National Society. Mr A. Palmer presided. Mr James Cullen, president of the National Union, addressed the meeting on behalf of the deputation. A discussion followed, and the general opinion seemed to be in favour of amalgamation. The members of the deputation were Messrs J. Cullen, president; Wm. Barbour, trustee; C. Porter, trustee; J. H. Radford, treasurer; Wm. Johnson, general secretary; John Cunningham, and J. Russell. It was decided that the deputation should confer with the committee of the Carpenters' Society on Thursday evening next, at 6 0 o'clock, in the Salisbury Hotel, to consider details.

THE entries for the theatrical sports will close on Saturday next. Books of tickets for sale may be obtained from the honorary secretary. The following donations and promises of donations and prizes have been received, in addition to those previously announced:—Mr Owen Hall, £2 2s.; Miss Ellen Terry, £1 1s.; Messrs Whitbread and Co., Limited, £1 1s.; the *Daily Telegraph*, £3 3s.; Miss Lilian Braithwaite, 10s 6d.; Albert Chevalier, £1 1s.; and Miss Eva Moore, a prize. A well-wisher has sent a handsome walking-stick. The Empire, Dublin, tug-of-war team has been entered, and there may also be a tug-of-war team from the Gaiety, Dublin. It is a matter for regret that Sir Henry Irving's staff cannot send a tug-of-war team this year. Entry forms may be obtained on application to the honorary secretary. The next meeting of the committee will take place at 5·30 on Tuesday, at 29, Wellington-street.

A SPECIAL invitation has been sent to the stage employees connected with the Glasgow theatres and music halls to attend a meeting to-morrow evening at 7 0 o'clock at 11, Maitland-street, to consider a proposal to establish a social club.

A MEETING of stage employees will be held to-morrow evening at the Royal Standard, Fleming-street, at 8 0 o'clock. Those resident in that district who wish to have particulars of the theatrical sports can obtain information at this meeting.

AT the meeting of the committee of the No. 1 Branch of the National Union on Wednesday last, a number of applications for membership were dealt with. A member applied for assistance from the benevolent fund, which was granted. Claims for sick pay were also considered. It was reported that a member had left his employment without notice, and it was decided that he should be called before the committee for an explanation.

IT is satisfactory to learn that there is a growing feeling against the practice of issuing subscription lists on behalf of men who do not belong to one or other of the sick and benevolent funds open to theatrical employees. While these lists are not so numerous as they were formerly, they are still so plentiful that at some theatres it is not unusual for two or three lists to be circulated among the staff in one week. The general body of stage employees cannot be accused of lacking in sympathy for an untortunate fellow-worker; but it is not unreasonable that the men who are subscribing from 6d. to 1s. a-week to provide themselves with assistance in time of sickness or adversity should object to be taxed so frequently on behalf of those who have not, and, indeed, have been unwilling, to make provision for themselves or their families by subscribing to sick and funeral funds. There will, of course, always be special cases, but many claims are unworthy of support.

THE stage staff of the Grand Theatre, Woolwich, assembled at the local Gun Hotel, on Tuesday evening, for the purpose of presenting Mr J. Gladwin, the manager, with an illuminated address. The chair was taken by Mr Percy Court, master carpenter. The vice-chairman was Mr G. Dane, electrician. Mr Court, in asking Mr Gladwin's acceptance of the address, said he could only endorse the wording, but apart from that it was a pleasure for him to have the honour of presiding at the presentation. He said that the presentation of an address was an honour that one did not often have, and that it was subscribed for with the same good feeling with which it was given. The address read as follows:—"To Mr Jack Gladwin.—We, the undersigned, the stage staff of the Grand Theatre, desire respectfully to show our appreciation of the manner in which you have always treated us during the discharge of your difficult and onerous duties, and for the kind consideration you have always shown us." Mr Claude Mackenzie supported the remarks made by Mr Court, and Mr Gladwin heartily responded by saying he hoped to always consider the stage staff in the same manner that up to the present he had always endeavoured to do. He also mentioned that no captain could successfully sail a ship without an able staff of lieutenants, and he was proud to acknowledge the loyal assistance he had always received from the stage staff, and hoped they would long remain together, and also that there would always be the same good feeling existing between them. In conclusion, he particularly wished to thank Mr Mackenzie for the big-heartedness and kindly feeling that prompted him to join the merry party. The remainder of the evening was spent in harmony, and mention must be made of a song ably rendered by Mr Alfred Cootes. The host, Mr G. Douse, was heartily congratulated for the able manner everything had been arranged and his kindness on this occasion, and the evening terminated with "Auld Lang Syne."

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

ROSAIRE.—May 31, at Birmingham, the wife of Jack Rosaire (Four Rosaires), of a fine boy. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

GROSSMITH—BLYTHE.—June 2, at St. George's, Bloomsbury, by the Rev. R. B. Tollington, Lawrence Randall, younger son of George and Rosa Grossmith, Russell-square, to Coralie Maud, daughter of W. T. Blythe, Norwich.

JAMES—BAKER.—May 30, by special licence, Rudolf Trehern James to Finnette, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Howard Baker. American papers please copy.

SPEARMAN—BYRNE.—June 1, at St. Paul's Church, Winchmore-hill, by the Rev. A. J. B. Dewdney, vicar, William Charles Spearman to Rosa Louise Byrne.

DEATHS.

DESCOMBES.—May 31, 1904, in Warrington, at the age of seventy-three years, Fraulein Laura (Mrs Descombes), Queen of the Lofty Wire, the beloved mother of Lina and Vani. We mourn for thee, mother.

PURVIS.—May 25, at Birmingham, the wife of Walter Purvis (Lilly Brammer), of a fine son.

STANLEY.—May 30, at Leigh-on-Sea, Jean Stanley (Joseph Haynes), of Stanley and Lillian and the Tivertons, aged fifty-two.

IN MEMORIAM.

DESCOMBES.—In loving memory of M. H. Descombes, globe performer and tight rope dancer, who departed this life Sept 10, 1898, age sixty-nine years. Sleep peacefully. Foreign papers please copy.

ESPINOSA.—In ever-loving memory of our dearly beloved father, Leon Espinosa, who died on June 1, 1903.

ON THE ROAD, JUNE 6.

ARMADALE REPERTOIRE.—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
AUSTIN, MARY.—Prince's Theatre, Accrington.
BANDMANN-PALMER.—Theatre Royal, Bradford.
BENSON, F. R. (1).—New Theatre, Oxford.
BID FOR FORTUNE.—T. R., South Shields.
BIGAMY.—Theatre Royal, Darlington.
BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH.—P. T., Portsmouth.
BLACK BISHOP.—Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.
CHRISTIAN.—Ealing Theatre, W.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
DANDY DOCTOR.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
DAN THE RAKE.—Theatre Royal, Scarborough.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—P.O W. T., Grimsby.
DISHONOURED.—Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.
D'OYLY CARTE (C).—Grand Theatre, Plymouth.
FAITHFUL FRIEND.—Theatre Royal, Atterclife.
FIENDS OF LONDON.—Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.
FIGHT FOR LIFE.—Grand Theatre, Walsall.
FRIVOLITY.—Theatre Royal, Bath.
FROM SCOTLAND YARD.—T. R., Chatham.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS.—Shakespeare Theatre, S.W.
GREATEST SCOUNDREL LIVING.—E. T., Oldham.
GREED OF GOLD.—Royalty T., Barrow.
GRIP OF IRON.—Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.
HER FATAL PAST.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—K. T., Nottingham.
HIS MAJESTY'S GUESTS.—T. R., Sunderland.
HIS MAJESTY'S GUESTS (N.).—T. R., Chesterfield.
HOT NIGHT.—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
I DEFY THE WORLD.—Victoria T., Broughton.
IN DARK SIBERIA.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
IRVING, SIR HENRY.—Prince's Theatre, Bristol.
JUDY.—Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.
LADY OF OSTEND.—T. R., Portsmouth.
LATE LAMENTED.—Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.
LIFE'S STORY.—Mexborough.
LITTLE MISS NOBODY.—Opera House, Norwich.
LONDON FIREMAN.—P. O. W. T., Wolverhampton.
MAN TO MAN.—Prince's Theatre, Bradford.
MANXMAN.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
MARRIAGE OF VENGEANCE.—M. T., Glasgow.
MASTER CRIMINAL.—P. O. W. T., Southampton.
NEW HOUSEMAID.—Theatre Royal, Lincoln.
OTTO THE OUTCAST.—Court Theatre, Warrington.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—P. O. W. T., Birmingham.
ROGUES AND VAGABONDS.—T. R., Stockport.
ROYAL DIVORCE (KELLY) (N.).—G. T., Swansea.
ROYAL DIVORCE (KELLY) (S.).—Q. T., Leeds.
SAVED FROM THE SEA.—T. R, Ton-y-Pandy.
SCARLET WOMAN.—Borough Theatre, N. Shields.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—J. T., Manchester.
SLAVE GIRL.—Paisley Theatre, Paisley.
SNUG LITTLE KINGDOM.—Royalty T., Glasgow.
STILL ALARM.—Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.
STOLEN BIRTHRIGHT.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
TOM, DICK, AND HARRY.—O. H., Leicester.
TRIP TO CHINATOWN.—Grand T., Plymouth.
TRIUMPH OF TRUTH.—T. R, Scarborough.
TWIN SISTER.—Grand Theatre, Birmingham.
TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS.—Brixton T., S.W.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—Pavilion Theatre, E.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (HARRINGTON).—Eccles.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (TULLY).—Middlesbrough.
WARNER, GRACE.—Grand Theatre, Derby.
WHAT A WOMAN DID.—T. R, Barnsley.
WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?—Southport.
WHAT MEN CALL LOVE.—Pier Pav., Southend.
WHERE'S UNCLE?—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
WHITEWASHING JULIA.—O. H., Cheltenham.
WHY WOMAN SINS.—P. O. W. T., Salford.
WOMAN OF PLEASURE.—Theatre Royal, Eastbourne.
WORLD'S DESIRE.—Terriss Theatre, S.E.
WRECKER OF MEN.—G. T., Nottingham.
ZAZA.—Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.

"THE PERIL OF AN EMPIRE."

By ROBERT JOHNSTON.
London: Chatto and Windus.

The plot of Mr Robert Johnston's interesting novel has to do with political intrigue and the daring attempt of a renegade Englishman to deal a deadly blow at the land of his birth. This man, known as Lyle Valentine, and moving in the best society, has a charming niece, Lola Graydon, with whom Sir Robert Anglesey, a member of the government, happens to fall in love. Up to this time his life had been a busy one, devoted to hard work and ambition. Little of it had been spared to social pleasures; still less to worldly ones. He therefore recognised the fact, not without a sense of its danger, that in his case love coming into his life in this way was certain to exercise a most powerful influence. It would be fraught with issues for good or evil, for happiness or misery, to his whole future.

In chapter X. is given a vivid description of a first night at a London West-end theatre, when a play by a new author is produced.

"As the author peeped from behind the scenes at the audience assembled to act as the jury, and to decide his destiny, his heart sank within him. Men and women whose names were famous in literary, musical, or artistic London—many of them, indeed, with world-wide reputations—were gathered together: in the stalls, in the circle, in the boxes. They were chatting, laughing, joking, flirting, for the most part. They looked as though they were prepared for anything but seriousness, and he had written for them a serious play.

"After the first piece they filed in rapidly. From their clubs, their restaurants, their dining-rooms, their own houses, nearly everybody who was anybody in London was there.

"The stalls reserved for the critics were the last to be occupied; but most of them were filled before the curtain rose on the chief piece. The bitterest censor of them all was in his corner seat; a small man with his head sunk down into his shoulders, looking as if all of him were dead but his keen, flashing eyes. A failure in literature and art, his word was yet dreaded more than the judgment of those who had succeeded."

A tragic event is the murder of Jabez Brown, a secret enquiry agent, who one foggy night is stabbed to death in a London street and the body taken away in a cab and thrown into the Thames. How a slighted woman out of revenge betrays the authors of the crime, and how the plans of Lyle Valentine are defeated, we learn in due course.

AT the Brixton Theatre this week the musical comedy by Arthur Branscombe and Osmond Carr, entitled *Morocco Bound*, has been given by an excellent company engaged by Mr Penrhyn Forster. Miss Florence Trevillian as the Comtesse De Blaque submits a highly finished embodiment, and earns an enthusiastic reception. As Spoofer Bey Mr Keino Johnson proves himself a comedian of resource, his song in the second act, "Let the band play an Irish tune," being vociferously applauded. As Squire Higgins Mr T. S. Conover is capital; Mr Walter Balfour in the rôle of Vivian, Squire Higgins's son, sings and speaks his lines exceedingly well. As Josiah Higgins Mr Bruce Lindley merits high commendation, as does Mr Grahame Herrington as Lord Percy Pimpleton. Mr W. H. Brougham is comically dignified as the Grand Vizier of Morocco. Miss Hilda Corelli as Maud Sportington and Miss Edith Walker as Ethel Sportington are admirable, and an extremely clever enactment of the rôle of Lady Walkover is supplied by Miss Isabel Vernon.

MISS GERTRELLA produced on Monday, at the Empire, Liverpool, her new act, "In Cupid's Garden," with most flattering success. The elaborate stage set, consisting of two cut cloths of overhanging foliage, and a scene cloth representing a moonlit river view, with illuminated effects, has been painted by Julian Hicks, and it is a beautiful background indeed to the new dances introduced by Miss Gertrella, followed by her well-known trapeze and rope performance. This charming act will shortly be seen at a leading West-end establishment.

PROVINCIAL ACTING-MANAGERS.

MR. KAY DRACO.

Mr Kay Draco, the youngest son of a Liverpool (Greek) cotton broker, started his theatrical career quite from a serious point of view of making a living by it, and he has had no cause to grumble ever since. Two years' interval after having left school, he served in commercial offices, but, feeling discontented, followed his brother's professional footsteps. He started quite in the right direction, from the very bottom, consequently having a thorough experience before and behind the curtain. He tried his hand at acting, but altogether did not satisfy himself, in spite of such good training as being under Mr Henry W. Hatchman's stage-management in an old Surrey drama called *My Jack*, the company belonging to Messrs Dottridge and Longden, with whom he served a good many years with pantomimes and dramas as manager. He always says this firm brought him good luck in many ways, one in particular, the meeting of his talented young wife, Miss Mimi Fisher, in their *Blue Beard* panto., Christmas 1900-1901. Business management now is entirely his line of business, although for a change he sometimes varies it by doing the advance-management; the last he did in this respect was with Messrs Lowenfield and Lederer's No 1 transatlantic success *The Casino Girl* from the Shaftesbury Theatre, with almost an entirely American company, managed by Mr George M. Slater. Following this he accepted an offer from Mr Mouillot to act as advance manager for *The Girl from Up There*, managed by Mr Guyton Heath, from the Duke of York's Theatre, the tour commencing at Mr Mouillot's own Dublin theatre. Some of the most unique kind of advertising was introduced. For instance an animated picture machine called the "Biogen," supplied by the Biograph Company, could be viewed from an occupied shop window in each town by the public free, by means of large glass lenses, which exhibited two animated scenes from the piece. This undoubtedly was one of the most original advertising mediums for theatrical purposes travelling, and the peculiar experiences connected with it are too numerous to mention. Mr Mouillot very kindly released him to fulfil another pantomime engagement with Messrs Dottridge and Longden. After ten weeks' run without a day's vacation he rejoined Mr Mouillot until the conclusion of the tour. After a week's rest an offer came from M. Auguste Van Biene as general manager for the almost world-renowned *Broken Melody*. One very sad incident occurred during his experience with this management, Mr E. J. Malyon died an hour after rehearsal, on the eve of a new production at the Grand Theatre, Birmingham. However, the piece had to be produced, but without a title, so Mr Van Biene appealed to the public for one, and in return offered a prize of £5; but no suitable title was forthcoming, so, benefitting from Mr Van Biene's generosity, the hospitals received the prize with a bit added to it. Immediately following this engagement Mr Dance engaged him as business manager for one of his *Kitty Grey* tours, during which time

MR. KAY DRACO.

he was sent for to act as general assistant manager at Mr Dance's town offices. Then he again went on a spring tour with *The Girl from Kay's*, and afterwards was with one of the same management's *Chinese Honeymoon* companies.

"THE FLOOD TIDE" will be at the Marlborough Theatre next week. The company is a strong one, and the whole of the scenery and effects as used at Drury-lane Theatre will be utilised in the production.

AS a result of their extra turn with the Dickens impersonations at the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, a fortnight ago, Mr and Mrs Edward H. Lucas have been booked by Mr Thos. Barrasford for a tour of thirteen weeks, opening at the Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on June 20.

LITTLE BARNEY arrived home from Africa on Saturday. The little Scotchman, after visiting his friends, commences a tour in Dublin. He is fully booked up until Christmas, when he is engaged for pantomime.

AT the grand bazaar to be held at the Albert Hall on June 21, 22, and 23, in aid of the funds of the Victoria Hospital, Mr Walter Winans, the champion revolver shot, is taking a great personal interest in the shooting competitions at fixed and movable targets, which are to be managed by him in conjunction with Mr Claude Hay. Mr Winans has not only arranged special and separate contests for ladies, gentlemen, and children, as well as ladies' nomination competitions, in which the contests will be by gentlemen for the benefit of those ladies who have been good enough to select them as their champions, but he is also getting together a costly collection of prizes to be awarded to the successful combatants. The bazaar is under the immediate patronage of her Majesty the Queen.

GEORGE NEWBURN, the popular mimic, commences the Stoll tour on Monday, opening at Shepherd's-bush.—Regan and Ryan open in London on Monday for three months, playing at the leading syndicate halls.—Mr Frank Lynne's popular song, "Trifling Occurrences; or, I had to come down for Nails," has been acquired for publication by Messrs Charles Sheard and company.—Mr George Rapley, at the Palace, Sunderland, last Monday, produced a novel song by Messrs Robson and Hyde, entitled "Are you going to stay in or go out?"

AT the Victoria Hall, Bayswater, on Tuesday, was produced for copyright purposes, a play, in four acts, entitled *Dr. Janet of Harley-street*, dramatised by Creagh Henry from Miss Arabella Kenealy's novel.

MISS MARIE HALL'S many admirers will regret to hear that the gifted young violinist is suffering from an attack of typhoid fever, and in consequence all her engagements for this season have been cancelled.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 10.)

SHEFFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr F. W. Purcell; Acting-Manager, Mr T. S. Carter.—The popular domestic drama *Two Little Vagabonds* was played to an appreciative audience on Monday. The theatre will be closed after to-night for entire redecorations.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mrs Bandmann Palmer's charming personality, combined with her great gifts as a tragedienne and as a vivacious exponent of eighteenth century comedy, made her a great favourite with lovers of the classic drama long ago, so there was a cordial greeting accorded to the talented lady when she opened on Monday in *Mary Stuart*. Mrs Bandmann-Palmer won sympathy for the ill-fated Queen, and she was well supported by the members of her company. On Tuesday was acted Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, in which Mrs Bandmann-Palmer fully holds her own with the late Eliza Thorne and the celebrated Miss Marriott as a representative of the melancholy Dane. The plays billed for the balance of the week were *Leah*, *Nell Gwynn*, and *Sapho*. The mounting of all the plays has been first rate.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. D. Forsdike.—Mr Sydney Spencer's excellent company, including the clever young actress Miss Lizzie Hall, began a week's visit here on Monday in the new domestic and nautical drama, *The Hero of the Flag*, which, carefully played and effectively staged, was heartily applauded by a large house. The new scenery was very effective, the principal set, a representation of the deck of a modern cruiser, being remarkably realistic. Miss Lizzie Hall, who was a great favourite here, in *Two Little Vagabonds*, earned the loud and sympathetic applause of the audience as Maude Forrester. Mr Sydney Spenser was first-rate as the villain; Mr Alfred Goddard presented a good portrait of a naval commander; and all the other characters were carefully acted.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Alan W. Young.—A large array of artistes gave delight to both houses on Monday, the following talent being scheduled:—Tom Edwardes, a clever and mirth-provoking ventriloquist; Alexandre and Hughes, musical drolls; Gipsy Wolff, a pretty and vivacious comedienne; Hamilton Hill, baritone; Drew and Alders, two funny and expert knockabouts; the Henry Taylor Trio of equilibrists; Michael Nolan, Sheffield's old favourite Irish comedian; Bert Brantford, comedian; Frank Stylo, comic juggler; Lee and Kingston, variety entertainers; and the Sisters Oswald, duettists and dancers.

GRAND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr W. C. Burns.—The Langdons, song illustrators, are starring at this cosy hall, and other performers are the Rozells, two agile and intrepid artistes on the triple bars; Pattie Bella, comedienne; Miss Vera, serio; and Alfred Levarni, in a clever slack-wire act.

SLIGO.

TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, Sligo Corporation.—Mr Hilton St. Just's opera company is paying a first visit here, and on Monday presented *Maritana* to a good house. Miss Louise Van Dalle gave a charming impersonation of the title-rôle, and her brilliant rendering of "The harp in the air" and "Scenes that are brightest" made her a favourite. Miss Fanny Emerson as Lazarillo has a fine voice, and her rendering of "Alas those chimes" was excellent. As Don Cæsar Mr Hilton St. Just pleased the audience, especially while singing "Let me like a soldier fall" and "There is a flower that bloometh," for both of which he had to respond to encores. Mr Frank Land as Don José made good use of a fine baritone voice. The King was well played by Mr Steane Louch. The chorus was up to its work. Other operas in the répertoire include *The Bohemian Girl*, *Faust*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, *La Traviata*, and *Lucia Di Lammermoor*.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr Arthur Willerby's company in the musical play entitled *The Showman's Sweetheart* is being presented here this week and is well received. Sir James Strudwick finds a capable exponent in Mr Ernest F. Wallace; Mr William H. Sams represents a good character as Spencer Charteris; Mr Campbell Goldsmid is well suited as Dick Seymour; Mr Chal. T. Chaloner as the showman, Ben Odger, is very clever in his female impersonations; Miss Kate Vivian is graceful as Sophia Strudwick; Miss Mabel Kerridge wins admiration as Norah Strudwick and sings well; and Miss Julia Alexander gives an excellent portrayal of Judith Hawker.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Sole Owners, the Empire Theatre Co., Limited; Managing-Director, Mr W. Marlow.—The drama entitled *Her Forbidden Marriage*, produced this week by Mr Frederick Melville, has met with a hearty reception. Mr Melville, in the rôle of George Madison, gives a good illustration throughout; Charles Devereux is ably impersonated by Mr Clarence Hague; Mr Angus Mervyn is good as Joe Lampkin; Mr Harry J. Crane is well suited as Sir George Lancaster; Mr Newman Maurice expounds the character of Timothy Tuttutt very creditably; Miss Mary Kildare makes an amusing Pattie Lovejoy; Miss Minnie Waller gives a capital impersonation of Lucy; Lady Lucretia Lancaster finds a good exponent in Miss Kate Connaught; and Miss Emily Hughes is graceful as the Mother Superior.

KURSAAL.—Manager, Colonel Blair Staples.—An excellent variety performance is attracting good houses here.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, the Opera House and Winter Gardens Company, Limited; General Manager, Mr Alf Hemming; Secretary, Mr W. L. Whitaker.—In *A Convict's Daughter*, seen here for the first time, we have powerfully convincing and emotional drama. The part of Michael Graham, a philosophic vagabond, is an intensely interesting character study, and affords Mr Frank Bertram an opportunity of scoring a decided and emphatic success. Mr J. K. Walton has a sympathetic part in that of the banker, Frederick Neville; Miss Maud Stewart Dewry endows the part of the heroine with much womanly charm; Mr Stockall Ward makes a manly Jasper Thorn; Mr J. Kingsley Royden is effective as Harold Trevalyen; comic relief is admirably afforded by Mr George E. Davies as O'Laragan; and other characters are well supported by Mr Henri Gerald, Mr Fred Facer, Miss Loftus Leyton, and Mr P. Grisdale. The play has been rehearsed and produced by Mr Oswald Brand, and the tour is under that well-known manager Mr Eugene Bertram.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—*Her Fatal Past*, by Mr T. Edward Ward's No. 1. company, is occupying the boards this week. Honor Symes has a clever representative in Miss Ward, whose artistic portrayal of this exacting part gains loud approval; Miss Lillie Monkton strongly delineates Bella De Lara; Mr Wilson Coleman gives a meritorious portrayal of Gilbert Fernside; Mr Albert Sember is a vigorous and popular Mark Desmond; and Miss Marie Ault is vivacious as Kitty Springwell.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—Frank and Albert Boisset's speechless comedians in *The Dock Strike* are causing roars of laughter; the Norman Leonard Trio in a musical act are deservedly appreciated; Rhoda Paul is again making a success; the Bros. Redmond are two amusing acrobatic comedians; and a clever musical sketch, entitled *The Slavey at Home*, is given by Miss Elsie Robey. Dan Thomas, the Jagos, Marion Scott, and Lulu Gould all contribute successfully.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr Jos. Sweeney; Manager, Mr Geo. S. Douglass.—Mr Ralph Pringle's the North-American Animated Photo. Co. is providing an entire change of programme. The pictures shown this week are admirable, and the variety turns are submitted by the favourite Boston Twins in *Odds and Ends*, a performance which is appreciated, and Brady and Johnson's company in a laughable sketch *Turning the Tables*.

STALYBRIDGE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident Manager, Mr H. Leighton Rook.—We are being favoured with representations of *East Lynne*. Mr Herbert Barrs is an able exponent of Archibald Carlyle, while Miss Dorothy Oswald finds scope for ability in the part of Lady Isabel, able support being rendered by specially selected artistes.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, the St. Helens Theatre, Limited; General Manager, Mr M'Leod Loader.—Mr T. Arthur Jones's company, in *Life's Sweetest Sins*, is paying a first visit here. The piece is admirably staged, both scenery and mechanical effects being most realistic. Miss Madge Morley's impersonation of Doreen Rivers is an artistic performance; Miss Mary Ainslie as Fay Colbrooke is excellent; and Miss Sybil Viney as Bess Grayson is very successful. Mr Oswald Douglas makes Doctor Colbrooke as deep and crafty a scoundrel as could possibly be depicted, and is ably assisted by Mr J. Ansdell Wilson as Kimberley Coutts and Mr C. Newton Buckland as Edward Grey. Mr T. Arthur Jones appears as the hero, Captain Harold Marston, and is to be congratulated upon a performance of sterling merit. Mr Jay Laurier as Bob Tanner is irresistibly funny, his singing and antics being very clever. Mr Charles Sewell is good as Ernie Woodstone, as is also Mr Bertram Lee as Martin. The other parts are in capable hands.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. V. Carnell.—Miss Queenie Leighton heads the bill here this week, and is charming all with her admirable singing. The New York Comedy Four provide a capital turn, and are enthusiastically applauded. The remainder of the bill includes Mr Tom Williams, baritone; Miss Edie Endon, comedienne; Brothers Allison, comedy artists; Sandy and Carl, comedians; Four Andys, Risley performers; and Mr Tom Colquitt, jumper.

STOCKPORT.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr William Revill.—*East Lynne* is being presented here this week by Miss Frances Wolviston's company. Miss Frances Wolviston portrays Lady Isabel with deep pathos and feeling, and Archibald Carlyle has a thoroughly capable representative in Mr Arthur Leigh. Mr Groves Watson is amusing as Bullock, and Mr W. Matthews makes a pleasing Justice Hare. Frances Levison is ably impersonated by Mr Bensley Evans, and Mr William Dunlop fills the part of Richard Hare with marked ability.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr Sam Roberts.—John Clempert, the Siberian jail breaker, who has succeeded in freeing himself from various kinds of regulation handcuffs during the week, is the chief attraction. The Carcassi Duo are pleasing instrumentalists, and Beatrice Worth, serio, meets with much success. Wilfred is a clever contortionist, and George Wyres is repeating his success of last week; whilst Sam Shipley, comedian; Ada Hart, serio and dancer; and Will Saunders, comedian and dancer, add greatly to the entertainment.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldon Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder.—The Osmond Tearle répertoire company is here on a first visit, and opened with *Hamlet*. On Tuesday a fine rendering of *The Merchant of Venice* was given; leading rôles being taken by Mr Alexander Marsh, who gave a very impressive rendering of Shylock, Miss Carrie Baillie as Portia being both clever and charming. Mr Philip Gordon's Launcelot Gobbo was an able performance, and other rôles, all capably enacted, were taken by Mr William Lowe, a capital Antonio; the Duke of Venice, Mr R. S. Innes; Bassanio, Mr Cyril Grier; Gratiano, Mr John Burton; Jessica, Miss Josie Beltram; and the Prince of Morocco by Mr Charles Kingsley. Other classics presented during the week were *As You Like It*, *David Garrick*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, and *Richard III.*

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. Batty; Manager, Mr W. Batty.—The week's programme is topped by De Grasia's three elephants, who go through a remarkably clever performance; Whisper, comic juggler, is as skilful as he is amusing; Miss Beattie Bloom's songs take well; the Three Henriques give an amusing acrobatic sketch; Major Moss and Son sing a few songs tastefully; and Keith and Merson give an acrobatic comedy show. Payne's Bio-Photoscope shows new films, and the Proveanio Family in their clever cycle feats complete the bill.

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr P. Collins; Manager, Mr Frank Egerton.—Mr P. Collins has entered upon his second week as proprietor of this house. Mr Egerton is a most courteous manager, and is ever busy looking to the comfort of his patrons. The two houses a-night scheme is evidently proving most successful, judging by the crowds attending each performance. This week a capital bill is presented, the star turn being Nellie Wallace, who scores a great success in her popular songs. Suzanne Schäffer is an athlete of extraordinary ability; Ara, Zebra, and Vora contribute a smart acrobatic turn in their sketch, "Indian Pastimes;" the Watson Family are fine vocalists and instrumentalists; Vendome and Chase are clever duettists and dancers; Kardoc, the handcuff king, is much appreciated; Frank Cass is a descriptive vocalist of a good order; Silent Tait as a conjuror is excellent; Mona Macdonald is a smart singer of good songs; and Collins's Animatograph shows some capital pictures.

SUNDERLAND.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Mr Morton Powell's company in *Bigamy* occupies the boards here this week. Miss Grace Lester gives a capital portrayal of the part of Diane De Coureill; Miss Elsie Capel as Sylvia Dresden sustains her part creditably; Miss Constance Medwyn is capital as Lilian Lambkin; Mr Colin Hazelwood as Sir Charles Dresden is well suited to the part; Mr Charles Glenrose as Lionel Craven, Mr E. S. Earle as Edgar Craven, and Mr Charles Bardon as Frank Merivale are equally good in their respective parts.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Brothers; Acting-Manager, Mr George V. Wybrow; Treasurer, Mr Alfred Browne.—The principal turn this week is Joe Peterman's musical comedy scena, *The Factory Girl*. Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, comedy cyclists, are worthy of much praise; Brett and Orford, vaudeville artistes, submit a most amusing act entitled *Two Love Birds*; and the Maples are first-rate duettists and dancers. George Rapley, Janet Howard Reynolds, Leighton and Mona, Lava, and Dave Hall also contribute.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee and Manager, Mr Fredk. Mouillot; Resident Manager, Mr Frank Boyce.—*Zaza* has been the attraction here during the current week, Mrs Lewis Waller's company paying us a revisit. Of course the chief interest throughout

is drawn to Zara (Miss Violet Fulton) and Bernard Dufresne (Mr Eric Mayne), whose portrayals again drew forth enthusiastic applause and recalls. At the close Miss Fulton was presented with two lovely bouquets. The piece is well staged, and the company is under the direction of Mr Haldane Crichton.

NEW STAR.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—Here during the week the attraction has been Mr Edward Surrey's comedy drama *The Plucky Nipper*, played by Miss Bonwin Carlton's company, including the author himself.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Mitchell.—An excellent programme has been arranged here for the week, and crowded houses are the result. Heading the bill comes that charming artist Miss Vesta Tilley, well termed "the idol of all." Her male impersonations are splendid, and though she did four turns on Monday the audience clamoured for more. Cabaret's Dog Wonders showed clever training, and won hearty applause. Mark Sheridan, an excellent comedian, was in great favour. Griff, the "jolly, jabbering juggler," is another excellent turn, and Stelling and Revell, a pair of clever comedians on the bars, won great applause. Will Johnson, an eccentric comedian, also did well. The Sisters Govell, duettists and dancers; Daisy Martell, comedienne and dancer; and the Brothers Poluski, a pair of capital comedians, complete the bill.

SWINDON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr Claude Jullion.—Messrs Marris and Melville Bickford's company is here with *Somebody's Sweetheart*. Mr Bickford is eminently successful in his original part of Stephen Leverton; Mr R. Mansell Fane acquits himself excellently as Stanton Ashleigh, and Miss Josie Bickford as Freddie Ashleigh shows smartness and care. Mr W. E. Passmore presents a remarkably fine study as Lem Lee, and Mr Harry Russell as Blabbs keeps the house in roars of laughter; Mr Stanley Worden does well as Old Joe; Miss Nell Ascott sustains the rôle of Lulu with her accustomed skill, and Miss Iris M. Ward is particularly pleasing as Zora. The smaller parts are adequately filled, and Mr Thomas Lawton is a competent musical director.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr R. Smerdon; Secretary, Mr A. M. Gillson.—Mr J. W. Cragg's comedians, in the musical pantomimical absurdity *Laughter Land*, occupies the boards here this week. The production fully justifies the title, for it is full of mirth-provoking incidents that cause continual outbursts of laughter. At the end of the second act the Marvellous Craggs go through their extremely clever acrobatic performance, in which they evoke loud applause.

TYNEMOUTH.

PALACE BY-THE-SEA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Graham; Musical Director and Assistant Manager, Herr Arnold Blomé.—One of the chief attractions here this week is the appearance of the DianaHope Trio in the society episode entitled *Her Good Name*. The Royal Court orchestra, which is ably conducted by Herr A. Blomé and Herr Wilhelm Wehber, continues to please. Kelson Trueman, tenor, proves himself to be a vocalist of exceptional merit; George Nicholson, the Yorkshire humourist, has a flattering reception; and Tom Garrick's Pierrots remain another week. Animated pictures are also among the attractions at the evening entertainment.

WAKEFIELD.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr Sydney T. Pease's company is here this week in the historical play *For the King*. Mr Sydney T. Pease gives an admirable rendering of Capt. Harry Clavering, and is well supported by Mr Herbert Claremont as Rupert Vane. Mr J. K. Orme is able as Robins Rosedale; Mr Vincent A. Briscoe is capital as Oliver Cromwell; Mr J. H. Firman is successful as Col. Wenbeck; and Mr W. H. Francis is satisfactory as Dr. Gray. Miss Bessie Elma ably depicts the part of Margaret Clavering; Miss Fanny James acts well as Dick Wildfire; and Miss Lilian Burns wins favour as Dorothy Vernon. Miss Lily Lloyd is pleasing as the maid.

NEW PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and General Manager, Mr Charles A. Barnett.—The star turn is provided by Blanche and Diacoff, who give a sensational cycling performance. Baby Lloyd, vocalist, displays great promise, the Sisters Smart are clever dancers, Miss Nellie Vann, comedienne, and Bob Stevenson, comedian, are well received; and Miss Lillie Le Breton, graceful aerial gymnast, and Miss Ethel Armstrong, vocalist, also appear. An amusing turn is provided by Martha, the musical slavey.

WALSALL.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—This week a visit is being paid here by Mr George Lyttleton and company with *At War with the World*. As Squire Redfern Mr George Lyttleton, jun., is exceedingly good; Tom Redfern finds an able representative in Mr George Lyttleton; Mr F. C. Roper is a capital Hugh Redfern; Miss Lillian Beaumont does well as Edna Maddox; Miss Jane Massey is very successful as Mrs Leslie; and Miss Theodora Henries makes a charming Mabel Leslie.

WALTHAMSTOW.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Bull.—The attraction here this week is the apparently inexhaustible *Fun on the Bristol*, supported by Miss Rose Moncrieff and company. Miss Moncrieff repeats successfully a performance that has long been familiar to our playgoers. Mr George Tearle is excellent as Widow O'Brien, and the amusing piece is rattled through with abundant spirit by Miss Constance Gresler, Miss Sadie Hart, and Miss May Morton; Messrs Harry Ricketts, Barry Lupino, George Lupino, Charles Thornton, Auguste Levano, and Walter Godfrey. Some good variety turns are introduced by Miss Rose Moncrieff, the Lupinos, and Mons. Levano.

PALACE.—Managing Director, Mr G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Slater.—Mr R. A. Roberts in his sketch *Dick Turpin* is here. This clever little piece, written by himself, affords the actor opportunities for appearing in quite a succession of parts. The Arthur Lloyd Trio contribute an amusing and effective sketch entitled *Little Charlie; or, the Twin Sisters*, and play neatly and brightly; Mr Rumbo Austin has some amusing moments burlesquing acrobatic feats; the fine contralto of Miss Flo Challis serves her in good stead in the rendering of a highly dramatic song; Mr Walter King keeps the audience in a roar of laughter by his clever and really funny patter; Mr Ted Cowan appears; Cline and Clark, black and white artists, dance with wonderful agility, the rapidity and originality of some of their movements being enthusiastically cheered; Carlo and Carmanelli Trio are very good as musical comedians, ably assisted by a handsome and most intelligent black retriever. The programme finishes with the capital performance of those daring acrobatic comedians, the Five Olracs.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs A. Milton, W. Johnson, and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—A complete transformation has been effected in this house since Saturday evening. The whole of the centre and side circles have been reseated with handsome tip-up chairs upholstered in ruby plush, whilst the orchestral stalls have been refurnished with green plush, the whole adding greatly to the appearance of the theatre and comfort of the public. The work has been expeditiously carried out by the well-known firm of Messrs A. R. Dean, Limited, of Birmingham. This week the attraction is Miss Gertrude Sterroll's company in the comedy *The Late Lamented*. Mr Ernest Wintour is excellent as Mr Stuart Crosse and Mr Ardene Lindon as Major Joseph Marshall is a typical specimen of the retired military officer. Mr Coningsby Brierley scores well as Mr Richard Webb, and as the family solicitor, Mr Fawcett, Mr A. M'Cullough submits a careful reading. Mr Philip Renouf is all that can be desired as the waiter Parker. Miss Gertrude Sterroll ably acts the part of Mrs Stuart Crosse, a remark which applies to Miss Beatrice Egerton as Mrs Egerton Webb. A pretty curtain-raiser, *The Decoy*, is also well received.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs A. Milton, W. Johnson, and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr F. Willmot.—That versatile comedian, Witty Wattie Walton, is proving a rare attraction here this week, and on Monday night he had a big reception. He is as funny as ever, and scores well in his recital of "Casey in Goal." The Bohemians are refined musical entertainers, and Rappo is a clever equilibrist and acrobat. Alice Golding charms all with her capital selection of songs, and a really clever juvenile is Archie Glen. Lade Henderson is a capital vocalist, and George Taylor, the singing Warrington labourer, scores a big success. The Royal Bioscope depicts some capital views.

WEDNESBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr W. J. Cranston.—On Monday evening Mr George Steel's company opened here in *My Partner*. Mr Villiers Stanley as Joe Saunders and Mr Ernest Regent as Ned Singleton did justice to their respective rôles. As Josiah Scraggs Mr Ernest Keand was successful. Mr George Steel played Major Henry well, and Mr Wm. E. Melrose was capital as Wing Lee. Mr Fred Fosco did well as Mr Brandon. Miss Lily Winter as Mary Brandon and Miss Kate Bruce as Grace Brandon gave excellent interpretations. Miss Lizzie Morley proved effective as Posey Pentland, and Miss Issa Steel was warmly applauded for her rendering of Daisy.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND.—General Manager (for Mrs Weldon Watts), Mr Fred Conneaux.—Milton-Rays' company is performing this week in the drama *The Dark Egyptian*. As a comedian, Mr Harry Elliston in the rôle of Fred Winkles would be difficult to surpass; his humour is provocative of merriment the whole of the time he is on the stage. Favourable portrayals of the rôles of Anthony Skelmerdale and James Woodward are done by Mr Joseph Harding and Mr Fred Buckland respectively. Mr Harry Marlow's conception of the character of Edward Dyson is a very creditable one, and Mr Henry Cullenford is a typical aristocratic heavy as Clifford Dyson. Miss Kate Froude thoroughly enlists the sympathy of her audience in her portrayal of the character of Joan Elrcy. Comedy has valuable assistance from Miss May Mulvey as Mary Tippet, and realism is given to the rôle of Marie Dyson by Miss Gussie Everitt.

THE success attained by the Bliss and Bliss Troupe of Pierrots last season has induced them to return this year, and increase their number of stands. They now occupy the Ward-Jackson-park, the Burn Valley Gardens, and the foreshore at Seaton Carew. Weather permitting, their performances are attended by crowds daily, and received with every mark of appreciation. Geo. and Leo Bliss, Harry Tomlinson, and Louis Kerno are old favourites, and are greeted as such. New arrivals for the season are Jim Aitkin, comedian; Ernest Percival, actor-vocalist; Fred Collins, Scotch comedian; Arthur Holland, descriptive; Fred Clifford, baritone; Charles Lyndon, coon vocalist; and Bert Bertram and Wilfrid Knowles, accompanists.

LEON AND THIEL'S PARK PIERROTS have taken their stand in the Park-road Football Ground, the performances being under the management of Mr John Wilkinson. The stage is well placed, and is lit up by electricity. Albert Freer, comedian, heads the list, and is followed by Alex. Gilbert, comedian, baritone; Henry Morris, comedian; John Wilkinson, vocalist; Douglas Randall, pianist; Nelly Willing (late of *Florodora*), and Rose Mellish, soprano.

WIGAN.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick.—Miss Rosalind Scott-Watson's company has presented this week the powerful drama *The Scarlet Woman*, by C. S. Bealieu, and *East Lynne*. Miss Rosalind Scott-Watson cleverly impersonates the character of Marie Brandon, the Scarlet Woman. Mr Ernest J. Fare is a capable exponent of Richard Marchant, and Mr Reginald Fox is an admirable Philip Gordon. Mr Wolstan Forster as Will Raymond gives an impressive impersonation of the part, and Miss Rosalie Heath as Margery Honor is very pleasing. The humour of the play is supplied by Miss Ruby Hamilton as Charlotte Simpkins, Miss Mable Tremere as Fanchette, and Mr Harry Cooke as Samuel Hopkins.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick.—Fred Karno's speechless comedians are the chief attraction this week. The pantomimical sketch *The Jail Birds*, the absurdity *Hilarity*, and the laughable burlesque *The Early Birds* create endless amusement. In addition there is excellent talent. The Dauntons-Shaw Troupe of champion trick cyclists are exceedingly clever, and Lily Morris, serio-comedienne vocalist, is a very popular artiste. Fredo, in feats of mystery; the boy comedian, Codge, whistler and mimic; Cyrus Dare, mimic; and Fred Terry, eccentric comedian, are all admirable. Martin Conway is also highly entertaining, and a capital programme is concluded by the Hippodrome Biograph pictures.

WORCESTER.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; General Manager, Mr Douglas C. Phelps; Assistant-Manager, Mr Albert J. Lewis.—Good performances of *The Christian* are being given here this week by Mr Wentworth Croke's No. 1 company. Miss Grace Chalmers as Glory Quayle gives a finished rendering of the various phases of that character. Mr Harry Scott's impersonation of John Storm is also a finely studied performance.

WREXHAM.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr Herbert Nicholls.—A good all-round company has delighted frequenters this week. Mr Burt Delmar, the popular comedian mimic, supported by Miss Edith Van Dane, has had a capital reception; while Hill, Barry, and Lang, eccentric knockabout comedians and dancers; Messrs Hart and Rudd, speciality comedians and dancers; Mr Albert Ventor, comedian; Miss Flo Merry, descriptive vocalist; and Mr Tom Arnold, comedian and expert dancer, all did well.

YORK.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr T. H. Barrow.—*A Beautiful Fiend* is here again meeting with great success. Miss Marion Lewes now gives a polished rendering of the title-rôle, being well played up to by Mr A. G. P. Turner as Karoteff. Mr Montague Beaudyn does excellently as Ivan Paulovitch, and the remaining parts are in able hands.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr Sidney Brooke. Harriett Vernon had a good reception on Monday night from well-filled houses, a state of things which has been the rule during the week. Maggie Rimmer is a pleasing dancer, and Harry Wenburn is a comedian of the greatest merit, his performance being neat and clever. Coram has probably few equals as a ventriloquist and Mdlle. Haydee's mannikins are a source of much mirth. The Brothers Huxter are expert acrobats, Charlie Craston a quaint comedian, and some amusement is caused by Reilly and Taylor in their sketch.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. VALENTINE.—*(1) We have not heard of the happy event. (2) Her real name.*

A. WILLIAMS.—*(1)* Wrecked, but Not Lost, *by C. H. Stephenson, produced at the City of London Theatre, on Nov 9 1867. Cast—Fred Flotsam Mr F. Thomas; Mr Smylie, Mr J. Howard; Luke Bland, Mr H Dudley; Roger Rhimes, Mr G Yarnold; Kit Cathead, Mr H. Young; Bill Blusterer, Mr J Gardner; Sue Smylie, Miss M A. Bellair; Margaret, Miss F. Bennett; Kitty Plumper, Miss Clara Griffiths. (2)* Never Despair *was produced at the Victoria Theatre on Aug. 30, 1869. Cast—Sam Savage, Mr F. Marchant; Crabbs, Mr Mitchell; Father M'Kean, Mr G. Hamilton; Hardman Mr Bradshaw; Rutts, Mr M. Roberts; Tucker, Mr G. Carter; Tom Pounch, Mr G Lewis; Foxcraft, Mr Robert Bell; Maud Miss Nelly Gordon; Dorothy, Miss A. Downing; Nancy, Miss A. Vincent; Chataway Miss F. Farren. The piece was an adaptation of Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables."*

ENQUIRER.—*The pantomime* Harlequin Dame Crump; or, the Silver Penny, or Pig Won't Get Over the Stile To-night, *was produced at the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, on Dec. 26, 1854.*

D. A.—Mrs Othello, *adapted by Arthur Shirley and the late Fred Leslie from Boucheron and Morel's* Madame Othello, *was produced at Toole's, Nov 11 1893. The principal parts were played by Fanny Brough, Maud Abbott, Julian Cross, W. H Day, Percy Marshall, Cecil Crofton, Blanche Horlock, Charles Glenney, Gladys Ffolliott, and Cicely Richards.*

ROB.—*Joseph Munden, the comedian, died Feb. 6, 1832.*

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Murray, Miss E.
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Travers, Miss Annie
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AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

BLOEMFONTEIN, MAY 9.—Mr James Welch and company, under the management of Messrs Sass and Nelson, have been playing here to crowded and appreciative houses throughout the week. The season was opened with *The New Clown*, Mr James Welch as Lord Cyril keeping the house in one continuous roar of laughter. He was well supported by Mr James Nelson, Mr Calvert, and Miss Winwood. The following comedies were also staged:—*When We Were Twenty-one, In the Soup, Just Like Callaghan, Cousin Kate, Tyranny of Tears*, and *Facing the Music*. Great credit was due to Miss Jess Dorynne for the style in which she played the part of Cousin Kate.

"PAPA" VIVIAN, sole proprietor of that talented family, the Original Vivians, played on Friday, June 3, at the Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness, a game of billiards with Mr Evans, a gentleman well known as a keen sportsman, and for many years a resident of the town. The match took place on the stage of the Tivoli in Madame Ella's cage of lions, Signor Pepi acting as marker, the lions as referees.

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—In your last week's issue there appeared a statement that John Murphy was at Wineaton Hoppings with his gondolas. The business of John Murphy has been acquired by W. and B. Murphy, who were present with their machine.—Yours faithfully, W. and B. MURPHY. Swalwell R.S.O., Co. Durham, May 31, 1904.

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INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
Chapter IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
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Published at "The Era" Offices,
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"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as "the Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright, and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman, July 31st, 1901

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr Albert A. Strong's new work entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee, July 28th, 1901

Those who are interested in "The Law of Copyrigh for Actor and Composer" will derive much valuable intelligence by reading Mr Albert Strong's book bearing the above title, published at "The Era" Office.—Pelican, Aug. 3d, 1901.

Mr A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette, Aug. 2d, 1901.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1904.

THE ACTOR IN FICTION.

Art is not a representation of real life, but a judicious selection from it; and there are subjects which, when taken as material for fiction, baffle, by their very simplicity, all attempts at "arrangement." The actor really lives on the stage; his daily existence is secondary to his nightly efforts. A biography consisting of a mere list of creations is really a truer reflection of the average histrion's career than a more eventful narrative describing his incidental adventures and hairbreadth 'scapes. But fiction is intended to appeal to the public whom "nothing pleaseth but rare accidents." Consequently novelists dealing with stage life have usually been obliged to "force the effect." Even when one of them tries to be realistic, he only "realises" the black sheep of the profession; and the romantic fictionists have neither the knowledge nor the judgment necessary for their self-imposed task. From time to time, however, books have been written giving a fairly correct reflection of the stage; and one of these is "The Life of an Actor," by PIERCE EGAN, which was published in 1824, and has recently been reprinted by Messrs METHUEN and Co., with clever copies of the original illustrations. Facing the title-page is an allegorical picture. It represents a hill, round which winds a steep path. A small plateau on the summit is labelled "Content." Standing thereon, a female figure, symbolising Fortune, points to where a golden ladder leads the actor, through the clouds, to the stage of a Patent Theatre. Here takes place the "Actor's Climax: Royalty witnessing the efforts of Genius." Five unfortunate gentlemen who have been pushed off the ladder by a person in knee-breeches, who is hastily ascending it, are lying in a disordered heap at the foot.

The hero of the book, Peregrine Proteus by name, is a printer's apprentice, who makes his first acquaintance with the stage at a "house of call" for actors. Here, at once, we come in contact with the sordid vulgarity of dramatic arrangements in 1824. These "professional" public-houses were important places for the transaction of theatrical business and for the making of engagements. Taverns like the "O.P. and P.S." in Russell-street, Covent-garden, were equivalents of the hiring fairs once so popular in the provinces. Peregrine obtains his elementary experience by performances at the private theatres of London. These, which somewhat resembled those of the amateur clubs of our own day, were maintained on the principle of each aspirant paying for the privilege of performing a part, the prices being in proportion to the importance of the character represented. After appearing at a benefit, Peregrine determines to leave his trade and "adopt the stage as a profession." His defence of his choice is amusing. He says to a friend: "I can endure hunger without complaint; thirst without murmuring; and I have made up my mind to submit to all privations." In pursuance of his resolution, he takes an engagement in the provincial company of Mr Screw, at Scanty Corner—a barn in which *Hamlet* is played in primitive fashion. Soon tiring of this drudgery, he joins the theatre at a fashionable watering-place called "Brilliant Shore." Having been induced by the patronage of a sporting baronet to exceed his means, Peregrine is lodged in Whitecross-street Prison from which he is discharged in extreme distress, and has to accept an engagement at Bartholomew Fair. The illustrations at this part of the work are very characteristic. One shows a "well-fed magistrate listening to the request of a half-famished player to perform in a barn." Another depicts the apartment of an itinerant manager. In a wretched hovel his wife washing clothes in a tub placed upon a chair, sits the manager in his shirt sleeves—very little is left of them—drawing up bills of the play. Peregrine then enters Mr Best-of-it's service, in which we are told, "His time when not occupied with rehearsals was swallowed up in the study of new parts." After a variety of further adventures, he becomes manager of one of the "great houses," a distressing picture showing him visiting an actor, once of great celebrity, in the workhouse.

What a contrast between the life of an actor in 1824 and the calling at the present day! Thanks to those excellent institutions, the Royal General Theatrical Fund and the Actors' Benevolent Fund, the unfortunate members of the profession are assisted without having to beg their bread in the streets, as an actor in PIERCE EGAN'S book is described as doing, or to spend the evening of their days in the workhouse. Instead of the wretched barns in the provinces we have bijou theatres, equal in taste and comfort to the best London houses. How entirely the general tone of theatrical life has been altered is shown in Mr W. E. NORRISS'S interesting and cleverly-written book, "Nature's Comedian," just published by LONGMANS, GREEN, and Co. The hero, Harold Dunville, is a man of aristocratic connections, who, having run through his fortune, has taken to the stage, and has become an idol of the London playgoing public. Visiting his relations in the country, a capricious and wealthy young lady induces him to become a candidate for Parliament for the local division. He is defeated by a narrow majority; returns to the stage, and marries an actress who has been faithful to him through all his vagaries. Here comes in the "forcing of the note" to which we have alluded. For no reason that we can call sufficient, he practically commits suicide in the fire that takes place at his theatre. Mr NORRIS'S moral, however, is a sound one; and we quite sympathise with his feeling that the great danger of the actor of the present day is that he has too many temptations towards interests outside his profession. Every period has the "defects of its good qualities;" and the aristocratic and easily successful histrion, half man of fashion, half artist, and without any of the hard training and preparation which have made Sir HENRY IRVING, Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM, Mr BEERBOHM TREE, and Mr GEORGE ALEXANDER the "thorough workmen" that they are, is one of the drawbacks of the modern stage. How great an improvement has taken place in the average actor's life since PIERCE EGAN'S book was written can easily be estimated by a comparison of his work with Mr NORRISS.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, APRIL 19.—*A Message from Mars* began another successful run for Mr W. F. Hawtrey at the Criterion on the 16th. This time the company is specially strong, the leading lady, Miss Mable Lane, being the Aunt Martha. The selfish man tutored into reasoner, the Martian ambassador, had an estimable exponent in Mr Gregor M'Mahon, and Miss Winifred Austin was an attractive heroine; Mr O. P. Heggie was the Martian, and Mr Hawtrey again made a feature of the tramp.

"WHAT HAPPENED TO JONES" was perhaps Mr George Willoughby's greatest hit during his last season at the Palace, and he has wisely revived it now. He makes the bluffing Jones a marked contrast to Mr Tom Cannam's meek and mild Ebenezer. Although suffering from an attack of influenza Miss Roxy Barton made Cissie very winsome, and the gushing Lavinia Starlight was admirably portrayed by Miss Roland Watts Phillips. A charming Helma was found in Miss Athenia Claudius, and Mr Norman M'Keown was the new Richard.

"THE ADMIRABLE CRICHTON" still draws delighted audiences at Her Majesty's Theatre, and the temporary demolition of class distinctions on the island puzzles the so-called democrats of Sydney, and it is safe to say that the restoration of proprieties in the last act is a great relief for the bewildered audience. Mr Edward Gwenn has made a strong impression by his capital acting as the Earl of Loam. Of course Mr Cuyler Hastings scores as Crichton. Miss May Chevalier shows the acme of good breeding as Lady Mary, and handsome Olga Beatty-Kingston holds out a reluctant hand to the servants at the "equality" function. On the 23d *The Light that Failed* will be produced, and Mr J. C. Williamson intends to deserve success by the completeness of his preparations.

THE TIVOLI had a new star on Saturday in the person of Miss May Duprez, who immediately and unmistakably "caught on." Fred Russell and "Coster Joe" and Jules Graham and "Darwin," the monkey, the Two Bells, the Six Empire Girls, Ella Wellington (ever welcome), the Smith Sisters, Ray Jones, James Harvey, and Tom Danson are portions of Mr Harry Rickards's strong company.

MR MEL B. SPURR concludes his second Sydney season to-night at the Queen's Hall to the intense regret of those who love a clean entertainment. Every night the newly decorated hall has been densely packed. On Thursday Mr Spurr leaves for Brisbane.

SYDNEY, APRIL 26.—*The Light that Failed* is one of the most complete productions that ever Mr Williamson has been associated with, and the verdict is one of unstinted approval. Every member of Mr J. C. Williamson's company was at her or his best, Mr Cuyler Hastings was admirable as Dick Heldar, and Mr Hamilton Stewart put in his best work as Torpenhow. Miss May Chevalier's Maisie was a clear-cut study, Miss Olga Beatty-Kingston was charming as the Red Haired Girl, and Miss Florence Gleeson revelled in the rôle of the she-gutternipe, Bessie Broke. Leone Cassavetti was a strong, characteristic Southerner as acted by Mr J. B. Atholwood; Mr Edmund Gwenn made the most of Beeton, the sleek housekeeper, and Mr Lumsden Hare was well to the front as the portly, bearded Nilghai. Miss Julia Merton shines best in a loquacious rôle, and her charwoman was capital. Miss Minnie Terry as a dainty French bonne completed a strong cast. The play is stage-managed by Mr J. W. Hazlitt, and the new scenery is by Mr W. R. Coleman.

"LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD" is the Permans' pantomime, which has run in Melbourne from Boxing Night until the 20th, when it began in the metropolis a season which bids fair to eclipse even the Victorian one. Mr Willie Perman is the only remaining member of the original Permans, and he is a native of Sydney. He manages the show, besides being of great value as Pete in the cast. Miss Isabel Webster, A.R.C.M. (Mrs Perman) is Queen Hyacinth, and her singing is even more enjoyable then when she was the soprano with Antoinette Sterling. Mr Harry Shine is the clever Dame Trot, Mr Ted E. Box's Silly Billy keeps the fun going, and Mr Fred Rivenhall is a good Senator Barton Frost. Miss Bella Perman is the Red Riding Hood, and Miss Maud Perman is the Boy Blue; and it is enough to say that they are up to the Perman standard. The other owner of the name is Mr P. P. Perman, who is Imp Fox.

"THE GREAT MILLIONAIRE" has given no hint of departure from the Royal, and Mr Bland Holt announces no intention to withdraw the eminently popular drama.

"A MESSAGE FROM MARS" has caught on as strongly at the Criterion as when Mr W. F. Hawtrey first introduced the piece at the Palace, and there appears to be no necessity for a change.

AT the Tivoli large audiences applaud Miss May Moore Duprez, the Two Bells, Fred Russell and his mannikin, the Six Empire Girls, Miss Eller Wellington, Miss Ray Jones, Mr William Danson, Mr Frank Yorke, and some dozen more popular performers. Mr Harry Rickards's new first part, in which all appear as dolls, is greatly admired.

FITZGERALD BROTHERS' CIRCUS AND MENAGERIE is still at Belmore-park doing good business, a great attraction being the Japanese wrestlers. Mr Dan Fitzgerald's trained horses have hosts of admirers.

THE WILLOUGHBY AND GRACH COMEDY COMPANY is in Newcastle en route for Brisbane. This company will disband in June, when Mr George Willoughby will go alone to London in quest of "good things" for Australia. Miss Roxy Barton will take a holiday.

"THE BUSHRANGERS."

A New Melodrama of Australian Life, in Four Acts, by Bernard Espinasse and Harry Leader, Produced at the Grand Theatre, Islington, on Monday, May 30.

Ned Kelly	Mr LEONARD YORKE
Dan Kelly	Mr CECIL KLEIN
Steve Hart	Mr W. BILLINGTON
Joe Byrne	Mr C. H. CHANDLER
Trooper Fitzpatrick	Mr FRED F. ALLEN
Sergeant M'Intyre	Mr H. HOTTMAN
Aaron Sherritt	Mr ARTHUR ESTCOURT
Fiannigan	Mr GEORGE ELLISTON
Brannigan	Mr HAL COLLIER
Pannikin	Mr HARRY EMERIE
Mr Scott	Mr H. COLLINS
Stevens	Mr C. JELLY
Donovan	Mr E. DAVEY
Smith	Mr H FENTON
Mr Lee	Mr HUGH MEMPES
Walton	Mr JAMES SKEA
Mrs Kelly	Miss NELLIE GILMORE
Kate Kelly	Miss KATE BRAND
Marion Lee	Miss HELEN BANCROFT

This new play, founded on incidents in the life of the notorious Ned Kelly, the bushranger, met with a favourable reception at the Grand on Monday night, the large audience present including the following Agent-generals of the Australian colonies—Sir Horace Tozer (Queensland) and Lady Tozer, the Hon. Henry Savener (Victoria), and the Hon. S. Dobson (Tasmania). The bushrangers known as the "Kelly Gang" were a terror in the Australian Colonies a quarter of a century ago, and no bank was safe from their attack, but Ned and his followers met their doom at Glenrowan in 1880, when the Victoria Mounted Police made short work with the robbers. As the hero of a popular drama Ned could not, of course, be introduced as the disreputable person he actually was, and his character had to be purged of all its most offensive features. This necessary task the authors—one of whom, Mr Harry Leader, has had a varied experience as actor, journalist, miner, and volunteer in the Matabele war—have successfully achieved. They have also written a play that bristles throughout with sensational incidents relieved by the funny doings of a couple of comic soldiers, the direct descendants of the two Gendarmes in *Genevieve de Brabant* without their vocal accomplishments. The story opens at the home of the Kellys at Greta, Victoria. They are celebrating the birthday of Kate, Ned's sister, when the festivities are interrupted by the arrival of Trooper Fitzpatrick and a small detachment who have orders to arrest Ned and Dan Kelly for horse-stealing. The two men, with their followers Steve Hart and Joe Byrne, conceal themselves, and Mrs Kelly and Kate deal so successfully with Fitzpatriek that they persuade him to show them how the handcuffs are worked. He falls into the trap and when he has been secured with "the bracelets" Ned and his associates return. Dan draws are volver and shoots Fitzpatrick who falls dead. As the result of this crime all the gang become outlaws. Ned visits the Mansfield Police-station disguised, his object being to gain information with regard to the intentions of the representatives of the law. Here he meets the woman who loves him, Marion Lee, a squatter's daughter, who informs him that Aaron Sherritt has induced the bank to foreclose on the mortgage on Terrabree, her father's station, in revenge for her rejection of his suit. She takes her leave and the next visitor is Sherritt himself. He has come to give Sergeant M'Intyre (who has charge of the station) information concerning the whereabouts of the Kellys. Being left alone with Ned, the bushranger pulls off his false beard, and seizing Sherritt by the throat nearly strangles him. The outlaws take refuge in a wood, where some more exciting incidents occur. Matters are complicated by the fact that Sergeant M'Intyre is in love with Ned's sister, Kate, and when he is captured by the bushrangers his life is saved by their leader, who prevents Dan from shooting the officer. The latter promises to repay Ned and departs. Soon afterwards Ned is surprised by the police and bound to a tree. Sherritt takes aim at his old enemy, but Marion Lee disarms him with a shot from her revolver. Marion is brought before her father, acting as a magistrate, for betraying the secrets of the police, and committed for trial, but is rescued by Ned Kelly and his gang, who enter and overawe the magistrate and the police. Having secured the constables' uniforms, they gain admittance to the bank at Euroa, and secure the £5,000 deposited by Sherritt for the purchase of Terrabree. The others ride off with the gold, while their leader, with characteristic pluck, stays behind to cover their retreat. M'Intyre enters the bank by a secret underground passage, but pays his debt to Ned by making no attempt to arrest him and returning by the way he came. In the last act Sherritt is shot in mistake for Ned Kelly, who promises Marion that he will become a reformed character, and M'Intyre leaves the Force, as he feels that he cannot fulfil his duty by the arrest of the leader of the bushrangers. Mr Leonard Yorke's acting as Ned Kelly was marked by much force and energy. Throughout he worked hard and with a gratifying degree of success. The manly side of the bushranger's character was ably and effectively portrayed. Mr Cecil Klein was a sufficiently alert and unscrupulous Dan Kelly, and Steve Hart and Joe Byrne had capable exponents in Mr W. Billington and Mr C. H. Chandler, Mr H. Hottman was an excellent representative of Sergeant M Intyre and Mr Arthur Estcourt gave due prominence to the brutal characteristics of Aaron Sherritt. Mr Scott, a bank manager, and Stevens, a cashier, were well played by Mr H. Collins and Mr C. Jelly. Miss Helen Bancroft portrayed in charming style Ned's devoted sweetheart Marion Lee, who ultimately induces him to mend his ways and live a decent life. Miss Bancroft made full use of her opportunities, and so, too, did Miss Kate Brand as Kate Kelly, playing the part with admirable brightness and vivacity. The comic Irish troopers, Fiannigan and Brannigan, were amusingly impersonated by Mr George Elliston and Mr Hal Collier. Mr Harry Emerie was brisk as Pannikin, a young black who assists in tracking the bushrangers. Miss Nellie Gilmore was a bustling Mrs Kelly, and Mr Fred F. Allen did good work as Trooper Fitzpatrick. Other minor rôles were entrusted to Messrs E. Davey, H. Fenton, Hugh Mempes, and Jas. Skea. The play was produced by Mr Oswald Brand, who deserves every credit for the staging of the new piece. The woodland scene was particularly picturesque and realistic. At the fall of the curtain there was a call for the authors, which was acknowledged by Mr Harry Leader.

ON Saturday evening Mr Gilbert Hudson's company paid a flying visit to the National Hall, Hornsey, and appeared in Benjamin Webster's petite drama, *One Touch of Nature*, followed by the comedy entitled *The Serious Family*. In *One Touch of Nature* Mr Franklyn Walford as Mr William Penn Holder made a favourable impression. As the dramatic author, Beaumont Fletcher, Mr Gilbert Hudson was seen to great advantage. Messrs E. L. Noel as Mr Belgrave and Mr W. Fleming as Jones were well placed, and Miss Ketura Brookes made a fine character study of the actress Constance Belmour. In the comedy *The Serious Family* Mr E. L. Noel scored as Charles Torrens; the small part of Frank Vincent was made the most of by Mr W. Fleming; Mr F Moreland was a good Danvers; Mr C. L. Arthur was well received as Aminadab Sleek; Miss Mary Edward played with mock dignity the part of Lady Sowerby Creamly; Miss Kittie Selba was a meritorious Mrs Charles Torrens; Miss Mabelle Clinton was a bright and sparkling Emma Torrens; the servant, Graham, was well embodied by Miss Florence Shean. The honours were fairly divided between Miss Ketura Brookes as Mrs Ormsby Delmaine and Mr Gilbert Hudson as Captain Murphy Maguire. Miss Annie P. Jones played some well-chosen selections on the piano.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, JUNE 2.—The musical event of the week has been the revival at the Opera-Comique of Glück's *Alceste*, which had not been produced in Paris for forty years. The opera was given in France for the first time in Fontainbleau, in 1776, before Louis XVI. and Marie Antoinette. It is even said that the young queen liked to assist at the rehearsals, not so much on account of the music but to feast her eyes on Glück, who, before starting the rehearsals, divested himself of his wig and replaced it by a huge nightcap. It certainly seems strange that the Opera-Comique should have waited till the season was so far advanced to bring out this fine work, for in about a fortnight the house will close its doors, and the public will hardly have time to appreciate it. M. Albert Carré has done wonders in the way of scenery, and the Greek dances, admirably arranged, gave us the sensation of animated bas-reliefs. Mdme. Litvinne scored a genuine triumph in the rôle of Alceste, and MM. Beyle and Dufrane were excellent as Admète and the grand priest.

NOT long ago we were confidently assured that our Authors' Society had floored the Theatre Trust. It becomes, however, painfully apparent that this flooring process does not seem to have the desired effect, and that the terrible Trust, like Antæus, receives new strength every time it touches the ground. MM. Roy, Deval, and Richemond—the famous trio—have gone a step further and have now secured the Palais-Royal lease, which expires in 1910. This is, by the way, the first time since seventy years that this lease will change hands. To-day the Trust owns five theatres—the Athenée-Comique, the Folies-Dramatiques, the Variétés, the Bouffes-Parisiens, and the Palais-Royal. And if MM. Roy win their action against M. Alphonse Franck—which is more than probable—the Gymnase, too, will be bagged by them. Small wonder, therefore, that the complaints of the members of the Authors' Society are numerous and load. "Our society," I heard some of them say, "is immensely rich. Why do we not buy up the leases of these theatres?" This curious motion will very likely be put forward at the next meeting.

IN the meantime, our actors and actresses, scared out of their wits by the wild rumours about this all-devouring trust, have decided to bring the question on the tapis at their annual meeting on the 6th inst., when M. Coquelin will take the chair. From what I hear the proceedings will be of a rather lively character.

A REAL surprise awaited the spectators at the Comédie Française the other night, during the performance of *La Loi de L'Homme*. In the midst of a thrilling scene the strident sound of an alarm clock suddenly burst from the stalls. The audience was dumbfounded, the performers shared in astonishment, and everybody tried to discover whence this extraordinary noise originated. During the entr'acte the matter was discussed, but the culprit having disappeared there was no clue to the mystery. Was it an elderly habitué who, for fear of missing an important appointment, had brought the apparatus with him to rouse him from his slumber? Was it the work of a practical joker? Nobody can tell.

THE "Cercle des Escholiers" brought out two new plays, the first of which, *Les Fils de Danton*, is interesting from a psychological point of view. Danton died childless, but the author, M. Marcel Gerbido, for the requirements of the piece, has introduced therein two young men supposed to be Danton's sons from a first marriage. The sons—the reverse of their father—are timid, and of a retiring disposition; and, moreover, they wish to atone for their father's misdeeds by remaining in the small town where their father's memory is cursed and they themselves are exposed to the insults of their neighbours. They might have gone to live elsewhere, but in that case there would have been no expiation, and they want to expiate. One day, however, a ray of sunshine penetrates into their gloomy home. Georges, the second son, loves Lucile, a pretty girl, who returns his affection. She consents to marry the voluntary outcast, but when Georges announces to his brother this joyful tiding the latter sternly reminds him of his oath to vow their accursed race to extinction. The lover rebels. He claims his share of happiness, and asks what crimes Danton has committed that his descendants should be condemned to lifelong remorse. He is said to have ordered the terrible September massacres and to have shed much innocent blood. But is all this true? One man knows the truth: the Abbé De Kéravenan, who received Danton's confession before he mounted the scaffold. Danton, says the old priest, died like a Christian, but he committed fearful deeds which he repented. These last words shatter George's hopes. His beautiful dream has vanished; and the two unfortunate youths once more sit weeping in the dark room, behind the closed shutters. This dramatic little act was excellently played by M. Gaston Brau, M. Kermail, and M. Marcel Roland.

In the second piece, *Les Mirages*, by MM. Cain and Bernède, we see in the first act Jacques Vauthier, a Communist, bless the union of Thérèse Gervais, his niece, with Pierre Clarendan, without calling in the assistance of either the law or the Church. And the unreasoning public applauded this "free love union" all the more enthusiastically, as among them there certainly was not one who would have given away one of his own kith and kin under similar conditions. We then learn that Thérèse's husband divorced her, and that Pierre was the co-respondent. And as, according to French law, a divorced woman is not allowed to marry her accomplice, the free-love union was the only course open to Thérèse and Pierre. Unfortunately for them, society does not look upon these matters in the same liberal spirit. Pierre, a rising young diplomat, is warned that his career is seriously endangered, and his supplies are also cut off by his father, a rigid old magistrate. Under these trying conditions, Pierre sees in Thérèse nothing but an obstacle, and he leaves her, not knowing that she is on the point of becoming a mother. Jacques Vauthier is terribly upset at Pierre's heartless behaviour. Jacques' principles are opposed to marriage according to law. On the other hand, as he is horrified at the idea that Thérèse's child will be a bastard, he marries Thérèse and starts a huge factory to ensure for his stepchild an honourable position. In other words, Jacques' beautiful theories break down down before the stern requirements of the law. Eight years later Pierre happens to come across Thérèse and her son. Moved at the sight of the child, he has an irresistible desire to tell the boy that he (Pierre), and not Jacques Vauthier, is his father. After a moment's hesitation, however, he feels that it would be a wicked action to disturb the mind of an innocent creature, and he disappears never to return. The work was capitally acted.

AT the Gaîté *Cyrano de Bergerac* has been revived with great success. Mdlle. Moreno is a delightful Roxaine; and M. Coquelin, almost needless to say, is as good as ever as Cyrano, a part in which he revels.

MR ALFRED MARLER, who was for many years with Mr Milton Bode and has acted as advance manager for Mr Edward Compton on his spring tour, which will terminate at Dalston Theatre on June 11, has been engaged by Messrs Melford and Polini as business-manager for their *Silver King* North company.

THE Musical Copyright Association states that 20,849 copies of pirated music have been seized in London alone within the last four weeks, notwithstanding the fact that May is one of the quietest months in the music trade.

"OLD MANCHESTER."

A Romantic Drama, in Three Acts, by William Wade, Produced at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Saturday, May 28.

Humphrey Chetham	Mr HENRY GEORGE
Sir Guy De Vaux	Mr WILFRID BECKWITH
Catesby	Mr ROTHBURY EVANS
Father Oldcorne	Mr WILLIAM CALVERT
Sir William Radcliffe	Mr RICHARD DALTON
Dr. Dee	Mr A. L. BARON
Heydocke	Mr H. MELBOURNE
Martin Heydocke	Mr HUBERT DUNBAR
Jacob Oldham	Mr CHARLES MELROSE
Jeremiah Sutcliffe	Mr J. H. ATKINSON
Roger Williams	Mr RASS CHALLIS
Tommy Tinker	Mr H. WARBURTON
Bob O'Nobs	Mr JOE BRACEWELL
Viviana Radcliffe	Miss ITALIA CONTI
Mrs Sutcliffe	Miss CLARA COWPER
Mary Hobbs	Miss LOLA PATEY
Eleanor Sutcliffe	Miss ELLA THORNTON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

More than ordinary local interest attaches to this latest production of Mr Richard Flanagan. *Old Manchester* depicts at least one scene which exists to-day, and the play is written by a well-known local journalist. Mr William Wade has given his drama a sub-title—*When James I. Was King*—which serves to indicate something of his material; but while acknowledging his indebtedness to Harrison Ainsworth's novel of "Guy Fawker," he makes no claim to historical accuracy. The story begins in the narrative style, the author making first one character and then another the vehicle of his explanations. It tells of the heroism of Humphrey Chetham in some circumstances which refer to the concealment of a priest by Sir William Radcliffe, of Ordsal Hall, whose daughter Chetham loves. The Radcliffes are Catholics, but Chetham is a Protestant, and therefore not favoured by Sir William, who is inclined rather to tolerate the suit of Catesby, if he must entertain one at all. Catesby figures somewhat importunately in this respect, but Viviana Radcliffe is not in doubt about her preference for Humphrey Chetham. The King's Pursuivant meanwhile has heard of the priest's concealment by Sir William, and with his armed men makes something of a stir in search of Father Oldcorne. The soldiers follow Sir William to Knutsford, where they interrupt the May-day revels and effect the arrest of the knight after some resistance on the part of Humphrey Chetham and sundry of his friends. As for the priest, he has remained concealed in Ordsal Hall, but it becomes necessary for Chetham to remove him to the inner chambers of the Seven Stars Inn, where Viviana joins her father when Chetham has rescued the old gentleman from durance vile. During the subsistence of the trio on purloined food from the Seven Stars larder, we are treated to a scene in which Sir Guy De Vaux (familiarly known as Guy Fawkes) is shown the issue of a well-known conspiracy by one Dr. Dee, who conjures visions and burns red fire. It is in a room of the Seven Stars also that Sir Guy overhears the treachery of Catesby and runs him through, an event which is followed by the death-scene of Sir William Radcliffe, when Chetham and Viviana join hands in betrothal.

The success achieved by the production was principally due to the efforts of Mr Richard Flanagan and his excellent artists, Messrs Hugh Freemantle and William Palmer. Every scene is done admirably, those depicting local places, such as Salfordbridge, Old Millgate, the Seven Stars, and Salford-cross, being loudly applauded. A room in the Seven Stars has the further interest of containing some actual old furniture from the actual inn. All this must prove attractive to local playgoers. The members of the company deserve commendation for their endeavours to make the play interesting. Miss Italia Conti, an emotional actress of decided gifts, did very well in the part of Viviana, and Mr Henry George acted vigorously as Humphrey Chetham. Mr Rothbury Evans was effective as Catesby; Mr Richard Dalton delineated Sir William Radcliffe with quiet success; and Mr Rass Challis did duty manfully as the King's Pursuivant. Humour is supplied by Mr Joe Bracewell, whose part is all too short, Mr J. H. Atkinson, Miss Clara Cowper, and Mr H. Warburton; while others worthy of commendation are Mr William Calvert, Miss Ella Thornton, and Mr Hubert Dunbar.

MARLOWE DRAMATIC CLUB.

This well-known dramatic club gave its sixty-fifth performance on Saturday evening at the King's Hall, Covent-garden, in the presence of a large audience, whose enjoyment was largely promoted by a representation of *Harvest*, a play of considerable power from the pen of Mr Henry Hamilton. On its production at the Princess's in September, 1886, we had to chronicle the enthusiastic expressions of approval that gladdened the ears of the cast, the principal members of which included Mr Charles Hawtrey (Bevil Brooke), Miss Fanny Brough (Nora Fitzgerald), Mr Brandon Thomas (Colonel Tressider), Mr Arthur Dacre (Sir Noel Musgrave), and Miss Amy Roselle (Brenda). The fine embodiment of the vengeful heroine by the ill-fated Miss Roselle is a cherished memory of the middle-aged playgoer, and the dramatic possibilities of a fine part were sounded to their very depths by one of the finest actresses of the Victorian era. Noel Musgrave cuts a poor figure in the piece. In the prologue he acts an unmanly, contemptible part, and then in the play whines at the loneliness of his lot and at the approach of old age. There are some finely written speeches in the play, one of the best being the description of Bohemia by Roy Marston. This was given on Saturday by Mr C. G. Dickinson, who was fairly equal to the elocutionary responsibilities of its delivery, and showed considerable ability. He was a bright and sentimental young wooer, his love scene with Lettice Vane being particularly well handled, Miss Cecil Verne assisting him by her intelligent acting of the part of Lettice. Mr Murray Short tackled the difficulties of such a part as Noel Musgrave with much resolution, and the repentant middle-aged man of the play was in deep contrast to the thoughtless and extremely selfish young man of the prologue. Sir Noel's long speech on the sadness of old age had good treatment from him, though at its best it is a somewhat depressing tirade, relieved only by the literary grace of its expression of stern realities. Mr Percy Short was also well placed as Captain Tressider, and emphasised the cynicism of the character with much tact and discretion. Master E. Louis Bradfield, the talented son of a clever father, made a most interesting Geoffroy; and Mr Wm. Macdowall as Hamish, the blunt, outspoken Scotch servant, is a particularly good character part, and was very effective. Miss Mabel Palmer, who, by the way, is a pupil of Miss Edith Gibbs, the clever "stage coach," may be complimented on the strength and vigour of her conception of the heavy rôle of Brenda Musgrave. The outburst of fiery eloquence at the end of the prologue, where the sorrowing woman turns on her betrayer and tells him "What a man soweth, that shall he reap; and remember there will come a time for the harvest," most favourably impressed the house, its attitude being particularly cordial to the actress, who looked extremely attractive. Brenda, to a certain extent, loses our sympathy when in later years she heaps scorn on the head of the man who has wronged her, but it must be said that he richly deserves it. The softer emotions, however, hold sway eventually, and Miss Palmer showed no little tenderness in the final scene between mother and son, where the former proves that she has learnt the lesson that "to err is human, to forgive divine." The enjoyment of the play was due principally to the bright treatment of the passages between Nora Fitzgerald and Bevil Brooke, the modern Beatrice and Benedick being most agreeably played by Mr E. J. Heseltine and Miss Constance Cooper. Miss Ethel Garland did well with her slight opportunities as Miss M'Leod.

MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

IT will be good news for the admirers and friends of Mr Dan Leno to know that he returns to the London Pavilion on Monday, when a very warm welcome awaits him. The great little comedian has been recuperating at Brighton, and has entirely recovered from the effects of his accident.

ANOTHER welcome return to the London boards will be Miss Vesta Tilley, who will be acclaimed by her legion of admirers on Monday both at the Oxford and Tivoli. She will present new songs in the course of her engagement, but will probably be prevailed upon to repeat some of the most popular numbers in her rich répertoire. The author of "The boys that mind the shop" has been specially commissioned by Mr Walter De Frece to write a special song for Miss Tilley, and has finished it to her entire satisfaction.

LA TORTAJADA, the beautiful Spanish dancer and pantomimist, is to be the chief Continental attraction in the Palace bill for Monday next. It will be remembered that reports of the senorita's death were circulated a month or two since, but this is a common experience with those who have achieved greatness. The charming artiste is sure of a very hearty reception.

THE ALAKE OF ABBEOKUTA is having a good time at the halls, and although very much impressed by the attractiveness of the show at the London Pavilion, the Alhambra, and the Empire, he has not yet arranged for a circuit in his country. On Thursday, the 26th ult., when he was present at the first-mentioned establishment, Mr Arthur Prince, the ventriloquist, prepared a genuine surprise for his African Majesty. Prior to giving his exhibition of polyphony he learnt from one of the Alake's secretaries a few words of welcome in his native language, and during his turn these were fired off by that forward youth, the cabin boy, much to the astonishment and amusement of our distinguished visitor.

THE Hippodrome has recently been recarpeted and reupholstered in the record time of twelve hours. When it is remembered how many hundreds of seats there are in the building the vastness of the task may be faintly realised. But Mr H. E. Moss and enterprise are synonymous terms, and when he gave the contract to Messrs Cranston and Elliot, of London and Edinburgh, he felt quite certain that there would no difficulty in the way of carrying out his wishes. During the hours of night fifty workmen were hard at it laying carpet and putting new plush on the seats, and the place has a charmingly fresh appearance.

FOR months past there have been reports concerning the erection of a large music hall on a plot of land—that has for some time been cleared—at the corner of Great Russell-street and the Tottenham-court-road, contiguous to the Horseshoe, and opposite the Oxford gallery entrance. We now hear that the directors of the Palace Theatre have acquired this fine and large site, and that thereon they propose to erect a new place of amusement, with a seating capacity of about four thousand. Mr W. G. R. Sprague, the architect of the Camden, Coronet, Duchess, Balham, and other theatres, has prepared the necessary plans, and the building will be as up to date as modern ingenuity and taste can make it. The stage will be equipped with the most modern machinery for the production of every possible lighting and mechanical effect, and will be very large. February or March next will see the completion of this new palace of variety.

MR TOM CRAVEN, playwright, comedian, and journalist, has sold to Mr Joe Elvin an original farcical sketch bearing the happy title of *The Trippers; or, the Margate Boat*. Mr Craven's pen has also been requisitioned by the ever-popular George Robey. Some of Mr Craven's previous sketches will be well and favourably remembered, such as *Halves*, *The Champion Shot*, *Early Closing*, and the still acceptable music hall version of *Milky White*.

THE Donkey Derby will be the great racing event of the annual Music Hall Sports, which will be held on Tuesday, July 5, at the Herne-hill Grounds. £500 will be distributed in prizes. All the celebrities will be there, and with the fine weather that has blessed the gathering for some years there should be an immense concourse. Mr R. P. Watson has been engaged as handicapper and referee.

MR HORACE MARRIOTT, the secretary of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, has received a cheque for £45 (per Mr Frank Allen) from Mr F. Wilmot, of the Haymarket, Liverpool, being a donation os part of the proceeds of the Liverpool Theatrical Gala. The president, Mr Henri Gros, and the committee beg to tender their sincere thanks to the committee of the gala, and the ladies and gentlemen who so kindly and generously assisted on the occasion. The funds are in great need, as from various causes the applications are becoming more numerous.

MR JOE ELVIN and the well-known sketch, *Money for Nothing*, written by Wal Pink, and founded on the treasure-hunting craze, have been secured by Mr Tom Barrasford for the New Pavilion, Glasgow, where the popular cockney comedian will be seen on Monday in one of his latest and most successful creations. When the sketch was successfully produced at Christmas last it bore the title of *Semi-Detached*, and ran for three months. After Glasgow it will go to the Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne, in which town Mr Elvin has not appeared since he was a boy, acting with his father, the late Mr Joe Keegan. The whole of the Oxford scenery and effects will be used for the provincial production. Mr Elvin will return to London on the 20th inst. to the Tivoli.

MR HENRI GROS is just now away from London recuperating, and will be gone for a few days. He has been in the forefront of the fight on the sketch question, and is perhaps more keenly exercised regarding this matter than any of his colleagues.

MR GEORGE FULLER GOLDEN, who came to town to witness the Derby, is looking very much better after his long illness, but intends to take a further rest until July, when he will probably appear for a few weeks at one of the West-end halls, after which he will leave for America. He goes to Australia in the spring of next year, and will probably be back in London in the following autumn. Mr Golden has recently been sampling the atmosphere of Margate, Brighton, and other of our South Coast resorts, with excellent results.

MADAME MAGDELEINE, whose hypnotic dances and poses to music have created so great a sensation in Paris, made her first London appearance under the auspices of the Sunday Concert Club at the Grafton Galleries on Sunday night. The lady was, as usual, hypnotised by Professor Magnin, and the music to which she posed included orchestral selections, violin solos, solos on the Mustel organ, performed by M. Mustel himself, and a French song. Madame Magdeleine will make public appearances in London during the present season.

ON Monday week, at the Royal Albert, Canningtown, Mr Fred G. Brooke and Miss Dora Deane and company commence a month's engagement with their répertoire of dramatic sketches, including *The Secret Treaty*, *The Scum of the Earth*, *A Lost Woman*, and *A Prisoner of the Czar*, which was produced last Monday at the Bow Palace.

THE address of the head offices of the Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit is now at the Palace Theatre, Lincoln. This change came about on Thursday, and the numerous correspondents who write into this important circuit should make a note of it.

AT a meeting of the committee of the Ramsgate Council on Wednesday afternoon the Mayor (Councillor R. Dowling) announced that H.R.H. Princess Louise had graciously consented to open the Royal Victoria Pavilion—Ramsgate's new municipal place of entertainment—on June 29. A reception committee was formed.

WHILE the Palace Theatre, Bath, is closed for alterations and cleaning Mr Macnaghten has undertaken to continue his vaudeville entertainments in the charming Sydney Gardens (in conjunction with the Floral Fête and Band Committee), an enterprise that is being anticipated with pleasure and interest. We believe this will be almost the first music hall programme given under like circumstances in the English provinces, being carried out upon quite Continental lines.

AT the New Empire Palace, Newcastle, on Wednesday afternoon, a monster matinée performance took place in aid of the widow and family of the late Police-constable Gray, who met with a fatal accident recently while out cycling. By permission of their respective managements, artists from the Pavilion, Newcastle, and the Empire, South Shields, lent their willing services, in addition to the entire company appearing at the Newcastle Empire, the whole programme totalling something like thirty turns. The entertainment, which was promoted by Mr E. Leslie Conroy, manager of the Empire, was witnessed by a crowded audience. Mr Conroy, it should be mentioned, also inaugurated a fund for the same worthy object, and succeeded in gathering together about £40, which, added to the proceeds of the benefit performance, would enable the promoters of the affair to hand over a sum of something like £110 to the deceased police-constable's widow. In responding to a vote of thanks for his valuable services in the matter, Mr Conroy, on behalf of Mr Richard Thornton and the management, remarked that he would always be pleased to do what he could to further any deserving cause.

A REMARKABLE change has come over the Parthenon, Liverpool, at one time associated with the Stoll family, but now under the management of the proprietor, Mr Edwin W. Smith. For several months it has been closed in order that it might be completely reconstructed, which work has been done in a finished and lavished manner. The building was entirely gutted, the ceiling raised, and a new balcony and promenade set out, whilst the electric light has supplanted gas. On all sides picturesqueness is in evidence, the decorations being in Royal red, cream, and gold. Monday last was a grand opening night, when artists from most of the halls in Liverpool and Birkenhead attended and gave turns, in addition to the numerous company engaged, which included Arthur Lennard, the well-known comedian; Molly Doon, burlesque actress; Johnny P. Dane, comedian; the Bioscope; Martin Henderson, the blind musician; Florence Wood, vocalist and burlesque actress; Fred Lane, comedian; and Denby and Dent, in their comedy act "The Singing Barber." The Parthenon in former days enjoyed much patronage, and under the improved conditions Mr Edwin W. Smith should continue to receive cordial support.

THERE was a novel and exciting scene at the Hippodrome, Scarborough, on the 27th ult., when two well-known local billiard players—J. Metcalf and W. P. Smith, jun.—played a game of 25 up at billiards in the lions' den. The match was to settle a wager, and two lionesses were within a few feet of the players as the game proceeded. There was a sigh of relief from many when the players emerged safely from the cage.

MR J. K. REYNOLDS, whose success with the sensational episode, *Conscience*, has been so phenomenal, is about to produce a new episode, in one act, entitled *Remorse*, the plot of which is taken from real life. The new sketch has an originality which few, if any, can lay claim to, the incident actually occurring. There is also a dénouement which will create a great impression on the audience. It is Mr Reynolds' intention to produce it at the Westminster, Liverpool, on July 4.

AT West Ham Police-court, on Saturday, an application was made by Mrs Belle Davis for a licence to enable two children, aged thirteen and eleven, to appear at the Stratford Empire during the coming week. The children, who are both small coloured boys, were in court, and Mrs Belle Davis, in reply to the clerk, said there were two houses at the Stratford Empire, and the children would appear at each performance. Mr G. Hay (chairman)—What do they do? The Applicant—Sing and dance, and things like that. Mr C Boardman—What time will they leave the building at night? The Applicant—Before half-past ten. The necessary permission was then granted.

AT St. George's Hall, Liverpool, on Monday, the Registrar of the Court of Passage sat with a jury for the purpose of assessing damages in the action of Greenall v. Marion, by which the plaintiff, Eveleen Greenall, described as a music hall artiste, sought to recover from David Marion, also a member of the profession, damages for alleged breach of promise of marriage. The jury assessed the damages at £250.

MR CHARLES URBAN is preparing a series of natural history pictures to be shown on the Bioscope screen at the Alhambra very shortly. He will also show scenes from a bull-fight at Seville, while a number of Russian war films are at the present moment at the Paris Customs House awaiting the sanction of the Russian Ambassador. Mr Urban tells us that Japanese pictures are even more difficult to get through.

THE Charles Urban Trading Company excelled itself on Thursday night at the Alhambra, when it produced a series of very interesting pictures under the title of "The Making of a Newspaper." A film first showed a reporter taking his notes, then the editor at his table, the working of the linotype, preparing the formes, making the matrix, casting and trimming the plates, receiving "stop" news, and printing the edition on a four-decker Hoe press. The manner in which the papers are conveyed by an endless band from the pressroom to the publishing department, and the dealing out to the news lads, &c, were fully demonstrated. It took Mr Urban some four months to get the pictures completed, and they form the first successful interior series that has yet been published. Special lenses have to be constructed, and every kind of artificial light was used, including specially prepared mercurial vapour lamps and photographic arc lamps. The films were sensitised in order to make them four times as fast as the ordinary film, and certainly no effort was spared in the reproduction of the scenes.

BIOSCOPE pictures of the Derby were also exhibited at the Alhambra on Thursday evening. Mr Charles Urban organised a party of eighteen, with a coach and four horses, and, armed with seven cameras, photographs were taken all along the road and of incidents on the Epsom course, from start to finish. Special permission was obtained to photograph St. Amant, the winner, and a previous snapshot had been taken of the unvanning of the French horse, Gouvernant.

DR WALFORD BODIE, who opened again on Monday at the Britannia, is once more breaking all records, the huge building being packed nightly at both houses, despite the fact that it is only seven weeks since his last visit. He is again proving his right to the title of money magnet and record-breaker. He remains one week longer in London, then commences his annual provincial tour, opening at the People's Palace, Bristol, for three weeks.

MR ALF GIBSON has received this week through Peel's Agency contracts amounting to over £3,000 from Mr Thomas Barrasford. Mr Gibson's exclusive services have been secured for five years at the Lyceum Theatre, London, to appear two months each year.

THE force of heredity is strongly apparent in the stage success of Mr Marriott Edgar, who will appear at the Empire for the first time on Monday. The young comedian is the grandson of the celebrated Miss Marriott, one of the finest actresses of the "legitimate" in the Victorian era, while his father was an equally well-known actor. Another addition to the programme of the Leicester-square establishment is Mr R. H. Douglass, who was positively cradled in a theatre, for he made his first infantile crow in the Standard, Shoreditch, his parents being well-known members of the Douglass family.

THE Kilburn Empire is to be sold or let on lease. It is fully licensed for stage plays, music, and dancing, and also possesses an excise licence. It has recently been run on the two-houses-a-night plan.

IN the Court of King's Bench, on Wednesday, before Mr Justice Grantham (in Chambers), at the instance of Miss Katie Lawrence, an interim injunction was granted by his lordship restraining Miss Gracie Grahame from singing "Oh! Charlie," or any colourable imitation of the song, until the trial of an action which is being brought for the recovery of damages.

MISS JESSIE MILLWARD, the favourite melodramatic actress of the Adelphi, is making her first appearance on the variety stage at Proctor's Twenty-third-street Theatre, New York, in the clever little one-act piece, *A Queen's Messenger*, by J. Hartley Manners, a former member of Mr George Alexander's company. Miss Millward plays a *belle Russe*, who is acting as a political spy on behalf of her Government. She succeeds in drugging and detaining the Queen's messenger, whose reputation would be ruined by delay in the delivery of despatches. At length her better nature asserts itself, and she relents and lets him go. Mr Charles Hawtrey is in the same programme.

The 357th meeting of the executive committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr Harry Mountford presiding. Mr Eugene Judge, the hon. solicitor to the Association, was present, and a consultation was held with him with regard to the proposed new rules. The secretary reported that thirty-five new members had joined during the past week, making the total number enrolled since the commencement 10,262.

THE management of the Palace Theatre exhibited on Wednesday night a unique picture of the Derby, which was this year a more than usually interesting contest. The films showed the race, the finish, and instances typical of the day, one of the wettest on record. Mr Charles Morton has also been fortunate in securing an excellent picture of his Majesty the King on the course.

MR CHARLES PROBERT, an accountant at the Egyptian Hall, is missing. On his arrival in town by train on the morning of May 24 he fell on the stairs at Moorgate-street Station and struck his head. He went to business, however, as usual, but later in the day, feeling unwell, he left the office to see a doctor. Nothing has been seen of him since. Mr Probert was also an impersonator and quick-change artist, under the stage-name of Charles Conway.

MR T. J. NOBLE, who in February, 1899, left the Alhambra box-office to take up the position of manager of the Bedford, Camden-town, has arranged to return to the Leicester-square house. He was for some time at the Ealing Theatre, and then went to the Britannia, Hoxton, soon after that theatre was taken over by Messrs Barrasford and Bostock.

IN the absence of Mr Fred Baugh, whose departure for America was chronicled in these columns last week, his place at the Foresters' will be taken by Mr Peter Murray.

MR JEAN STANLEY, formerly of Stanley and Lilian, was found dead at Leigh-on-Sea on Tuesday. The deceased gentleman had lately been associated with a variety combination known as the Tivertons, consisting of his wife and daughter. He had been for many years connected with the profession, and was very well known in London and the provinces. Concerning the sad event, Mr W. F. Moss writes as follows:—"By the demise of poor Jean Stanley, whom we all know to have been in very needy circumstances for some time past, the opportunity now presents itself to make collections of sixpences, as suggested by Mr Harry Jee's 'Rapid Help System,' to assist Mrs Stanley, the widow, who is left with two children quite unprovided for. Any letters and contributions addressed to Mr H. Klockenbusch (M.H.A.R.A. Agent), Alexandra Hotel, Alexandra-street, Southend-on-Sea, will be handed to her, the names of the senders noted and published later on."

THE circumstances of Mr Stanley's death were very sad, as his body was found early on Tuesday morning hanging from a tree in the Glen Seaview Estate, near Leigh-on-Sea, by Mr Blanch, a builder, of Nelson Drive. The deceased had suffered from insomnia for years, and this undoubtedly affected his reason. At the inquest on Thursday a verdict of "Suicide during temporary insanity" was returned. He had been engaged by Mr Will Newman, of the Happy Valley, Southend-on-Sea, for the season, and was to have appeared for the first time on Monday afternoon. Mr Stanley's first appearance in Southend was made when he was engaged by Mr Will Dunlo, then of the Gaiety Gardens, in 1902. Last summer he was engaged as manager of the same attraction by Messrs Stracey and Pudney, and last September was given a grand benefit at the London Hotel. In the winter of 1902 he played the Demon King in the pantomime, *Cinderella*, at the Empire, Southend. He was a brother of Mr Joe Haynes, manager of the Queen's, Poplar, who is naturally much grieved and shocked.

MR TEDDY GILES is to be congratulated upon the excellent scena he produced last week, entitled *The Cotton Coons*, at the Battersea Empire. The singing and dancing by the youngsters would be extremely hard to beat. The scena presents a pretty picture, and the final cake walk by all the twelve coons and the antics of old Uncle Zac brought down the house amidst rapturous applause.

MR BENJAMIN RODBOURN, late the musical director at the Bedford, is lying in the Metropolitan Hospital suffering from gastric ulcer. An operation is to be performed, and it is to be hoped that it will have the desired effect, and that the invalid will speedily recover.

MISS EDNA CRAGGE had rather a curious experience in Blackburn, where a firm of clog-makers presented her with a "special pair," a slight remembrance of the days when she used to don the "woods." In response to such a gratifying recognition, she sang her favourite, "Never tamper with true love." Edna has not danced for at least three years.

MR JOSEPH DAVIS, who is a director of the Euston, Chelsea, and Walthamstow Palaces, has been unanimously elected treasurer of the London Entertainments Protection Association in place of the late Mr Herbert Sprake.

MR J. W. CRAGG, the veteran acrobat, a popular worker on behalf of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, celebrated his birthday last week, and, like the village blacksmith of the poem, "sat among his boys" at a capital supper, at which the members of the *Laughter Land* company were right royally entertained. We have spoken of Mr Cragg as a veteran, but that is quite a fiction, as his nightly performance at the head of his troupe conclusively proves. We do not know the retiring age of acrobats, but judging from what we have seen grandpapa Cragg do lately it will assuredly be some considerable time before he will say farewell to the footlights.

THE fifth anniversary of the Empress, Brixton, will be celebrated on Thursday, the 30th inst. Mr Nelson Francis, who is making himself very popular, is determined to make the function a red-letter night in the annals of southern Suburbia, and the talent will be of the very best.

MISS VESTA VICTORIA'S new comedy character song "A baby with men's ways," so successfully sung by her at the Tivoli and Oxford nightly, has been accepted by Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter for publication, and will be issued at an early date. It is written and composed by John P. Harrington and the late Harry Allen.

DURING Mr Will Spearman's absence from London while on his honeymoon, the interests of the Islington Empire will be well looked after by Mr H. Ketteman, the able manager of the Royal, Holborn. Mr Newman, the acting-manager of the Duchess, Balham, will take charge of affairs at the Royal during next week and until Mr Ketteman "returns to his ain."

VALAZZI, the wonderful juggler, after a phenomenal success in South America, where he refused a most tempting offer to stay for another twelve months, has returned, in consequence of his numerous London engagements. During his absence he has visited Buenos Ayres, Rio de Janeiro, Sant Paulo, and Santos.

MR WILL VAN ALLEN, who is on a voyage to Australia with his wife, sent a congratulatory postcard from Marseilles on Wednesday to Mr Will Spearman; and a similar message came from Mr Pat Doherty, the Irish M.P., who is at Tangier, where, though "Morocco bound," he is having an excellent time.

ROUND the rebellion of the ill-fated Duke of Monmouth and the Battle of Sedgmoor dramas have been written; and the period and events have once more been chosen by Mr Portland Akerman for the *clou* of his new sketch *A Rebel's Sweetheart*, successfully produced by Mr J. L. Graydon at the Middlesex on Monday. The rebel of the title is one Dan Walters, who has joined the ill-regulated horde of rustics under the command of the Duke. Dan is in love with the pretty Alice, daughter of a reed-cutter, living on the borders of Sedgmoor, where the action takes place. Alice's father does not look upon his daughter's suitor with favour, and gives information of an impending surprise on the part of the rebels.

THE Duke's army is routed, and the cottage, where Dan seeks shelter from the enemy, is surrounded by Colonel Kirke and his "Lambs." Scarcely has Dan found a hiding place than the door of the cottage is forced open, and the old man is shot down by the bloodthirsty Colonel. The latter shows an unwonted benevolence when, in return for the reed-cutter's opportune warning, he pardons the rebel Dan, and bestows his blessing on the young couple. The little piece was excellently played by a company organised by Mr R. A. Roberts.

THE Queen's, Poplar, seems to be too far away from the purview of the restrictive campaign regarding sketches to be affected by it, and Mr Brien M'Cullough, himself an actor from the theatres and a successful dramatist, is by way of producing at that East-end house what is to all intents and purposes a new sketch, entitled *Every Man for Himself*. It has had previous representation, but alterations, emendations, and a fresh denouément will make it, practically speaking, a new production.

MR HARRY RANDALL has in study, and will produce shortly, a song by Edgar Bateman and Sam Richards, entitled "There must have been a fire somewhere." Mr Bateman, who has just completed his first song for Mr Will Evans, has this week been felicitated by Mr Ernest Shand on the success of his "By kind permission of the *Daily Mail*."

MISS FLORENCE ESDAILE, whose delightful rendering of "The Dream River," by Miss Edith Fortescue, has called forth the highest encomiums, will sing the ditty throughout her five weeks' Oxford engagement. Messrs W. Morley and Co. have found it necessary to publish the song in three keys, and are also issuing band parts. Clifton Bingham is, as usual, happy in the words.

THE Græco-Roman match between Ernest Siegfried, of Germany, and Apollo's Unknown, of Calcutta, duly came off at the Alhambra on Thursday afternoon, and after a couple of short bouts, in which Siegfried was always obviously superior to the Unknown, the German won the first fall in 5min. 21sec., and the second in 1min. 27sec. Siegfried had the advantage in skill as well as bulk.

MISS ALMA OBREY wishes to thank her many friends for the wires and letters (twenty-seven) of condolence she received on Friday week in Leicester. It seems rumour had been stating that Mr Bob Baxter, "The Genial One," was dead. Bob's friends will be glad to learn that he is in good health, and that he appears at the Argyle, Birkenhead, on Monday.

MANY of our readers will be pleased to hear that J. P. Graham, formerly Graham and M'Bryde, late Graham and Vine, who has been an inmate of Brompton Hospital for some weeks, is now on the road to recovery, and hopes to be well enough to resume business again shortly. He would be pleased to hear from old and new friends. Address, John Graham, Arnott Ward, Albert Gallery, Brompton Hospital; or, 28, Royal-road, Kennington, S.E.

IN the King's Bench Division, on Thursday, before Mr Justice Darling, an action was brought by Mr Frank Charles Bostock against Mr Frederick England to recover £150, balance of money received by the defendant for the plaintiff. The claim was admitted, and the issue turned on the defendant's counterclaim for expenses and remuneration alleged to be due from the plaintiff for services rendered in connection with a topsy-turvy railway. The plaintiff, Mr Bostock, is well known as the "Animal King." The defendant is a live stock insurance broker. He insures such things as lions, elephants, chimpanzees, &c., and it was in respect of the plaintiff wishing to insure an elephant and a chimpanzee that the parties first became connected. Afterwards Mr Bostock introduced to the defendant the topsy-turvy railway—a sort of looping the loop—which he wanted exploited in this country, the plaintiff agreeing to pay the defendant's expenses and give him fair remuneration for his services. The hearing was adjourned.

THE HIPPODROME.

Several new and attractive items have been introduced into the programme at the Hippodrome this week, and the enterprise displayed by the management is having its merited reward in crowded and delighted audiences. One of the novelties is the remarkable performance of Juan Caicedo on a wire which is placed at a height of 30ft. from the arena. Armed with his balancing pole the clever Spaniard gracefully turns somersaults and regains his normal position with apparent ease. Putting on top-boots, to which are attached spurs, he repeats the performance, also mounting a chair on the wire. The daring and skill displayed by Caicedo evoke some of the loudest applause heard during the whole entertainment. Caicedo is indeed a marvel of cultured activity and graceful energy. Every movement, every attitude is distinguished by the most astonishing accuracy and ease. Caicedo's extraordinary achievements are intensely admired, and the enthusiasm of the audience finds vent in demonstrations of delight which eloquently express the feelings evoked by his remarkable performance. A capital turn is that supplied by Little Fred and his acrobatic dogs. These intelligent animals turn somersaults, and, indeed, accomplish many of the feats performed by skilled human acrobats. A French poodle distinguishes himself as a jumper, and a canine roundabout is great fun. The act concludes with a most amusing and exciting game of "push ball" with coloured air balloons, which burst when too hard pressed. The dogs evidently take great enjoyment in this merry pastime, and are just as excited as children having a romp. Mr Leonard Gautier with his performing horse and elephant meets with a good reception. The huge beast carefully steps over the prostrate body of the horse, and these well-trained animal performers also keep time to the dance music played by the band. Coming to human performers, a prominent place is held in the bill by the Pantzer Brothers, whose feats in their drawing-room acrobatic speciality are accomplished with a neatness and finish that cannot be too highly praised. They have a valuable assistant in the boy in buttons, whose briskness and funny antics cause much merriment, the experiment with a dummy boy being especially effective. The Novellos, in their equilibristic act entitled "Europe in India," not only present a picturesque picture suggestive of our Eastern Empire, but their clever and graceful posturing and balancing feats win frequent recognition. A small elephant, several dogs, and a bird also take part in this pretty and imposing show. The Kaufmanns are a charming troupe of lady cyclists who open with a kind of musical ride, performing intricate evolutions with remarkable precision and correctness. This is followed by some wonderful trick riding, one lady in particular distinguishing herself in this department. Mdlle. Nydia, with her startling blindfold hypnotic music-reading act, is still appearing here with success; and the Three Andersen Sisters give proof of their skill as equilibrists. Mr Harry Dio is seen in a novel sporting act, and Paulinetti and Piquo's comedy act is greatly appreciated. The Caledonian Boys' Orchestra plays selections very acceptably, and one of the lads contributes a brisk song and dance. Marceline, the droll, continues to do somersaults over the heads of some dozen attendants, and his antics are the cause of considerable merriment. The most important feature in the current programme is the revival of *Siberia*. Originally a great success here, the production has undergone revision and improvement, so that the piece is even more effective than when it was first seen at the Hippodrome some three years ago. The story turns upon the love of Captain Orloff for Vera Ivanoff, the sister of General Ivanoff, military governor of a district in Siberia, who is strongly opposed to the match. The villain is Major Karoutsky, who is favoured by the General, and through whose instrumentality Orloff is consigned to the mines. In the result Vera Ivanoff contrives to release her lover and many of his fellow prisoners, and a violent struggle ensues with the soldiers in charge. Most of the convicts escape, and, being pursued by mounted Cossacks, take to the river and get clear away. The General's sledge, occupants and all, is also carried at full speed into the river, Vera being rescued on the brink by Orloff. On the fall of the curtain on Monday Mr Frank Parker had to respond to loud calls for his appearance in front, and well he deserved the compliment for the admirable stage-management and effects. The adaptation is by Mr W. H. Risque, with incidental music arranged and composed by M. Georges Jacobi. Mr Drelincourt Odlum is a manly representative of Captain Orloff, and Mr Charles Weir scores as Major Karoutsky. Good work is also done by Mr Cecil Morton York as General Ivanoff, and by Messrs Windham Guise, T. Ellis-Buxton, and Phillip Sturgess as officers. Miss Allestree is excellent as Vera Ivanoff. The climax is, of course, reached when the prisoners plunge into the water and are pursued by the soldiers on horseback. Excitement runs still higher when the governor's sledge also takes the water; indeed, a more exciting episode has rarely been witnessed, and it is a sensational spectacle that should not be missed on any account. During the interval the Hippodrome orchestra, under the able direction of Mr Clarence C. Corri, perform the nautical fantasia, entitled "A Voyage in a Troop Ship.'

LEW DOCKSTADER, the well-known American minstrel, recently "blacked up" very early in the morning and, with Harry Ellis, a member of his company, repaired to a spot near the Capitol in Washington and enacted a series of scenes and poses before a moving picture machine with a view to introducing the pictures in a new act which Mr Dockstader is preparing for next season. Mr Ellis was made up to represent President Roosevelt and Mr Dockstader was supposed to be Booker T. Washington, the distinguished Negro who was once invited to dine with the President at the White House table. The pictures taken by the machine showed the bogus President assisting his coloured friend into a carriage, handing him a cigar, and taking leave of him in an ostentatiously polite manner.

EVERYTHING was carried through successfully, and Mr Dockstader was well on his way to New York before the matter was reported to the police of Washington. At the Marlborough Hotel, New York, very early on the following morning the slumbers of the pseudo darkey were rudely disturbed by a detective, and as the result on an interview with the Commissioner of Police at headquarters the films were confiscated. Before it was known that the "coloured gentleman" was none other than Lew Dockstader the supposition was that the pictures were to be used by the Democrats at the forthcoming Presidential election in order to make political capital out of Mr Roosevelt's friendship with a Negro.

HUDSON LANGDON, an Englishman, who had been employed as exhibitor and lecturer for the past thirteen years at Huber's Dime Museum, in Fourteenth-street, New York, committed suicide recently by inhaling gas at his home in this city. The deceased was born at Guildford, Surrey, and was sixty-eigh years of age. He was quite a celebrity in his way, on account of his command of language and his happy knack of improvising verses. In early life he was an actor, and was said to have appeared with Henry Irving in the English provinces. He left a widow and two married daughters.

IN a debate on Wednesday on the local theatres and music halls at Bradford City Council, a speaker asserted that the performances in the halls poked fun at religion and at married life.

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE ALHAMBRA.

The animated picture records that are the work of the Urban Bioscope Company limn even the fleeting fame of the cricketer, whom the British public loves to honour; and we can now see nightly at the Alhambra the genial countenance of Mr "Plum" Warner, who was specially honoured on Monday by the Authors' Club as one of the gayest and gallantest captains that ever led an eleven across the seas. Mr Warner has splendidly sustained the high reputation for honesty, manliness, fair play, and courtesy which British sportsmen hold in all parts of the world; and audiences in Leicester-square show conclusively what a popular celebrity he really is. He is accompanied by only one of the team—J. T. Tyldesley, of Lancashire—that went with him to Australia, but members of former elevens who have played in the land of the kangaroo include W. G. Grace, G. L. Jessop, Prince Ranjitsinghi, Richardson, and C. M'Gahey. Another interesting film is that delineating the new sport of push-ball, which was photographed at Windsor Cavalry Barracks during the rehearsals for the Military Tournament. The game is played with a huge specially made leather ball, which, when fully distended, is about 5ft. 4in. in diameter, and weighs about 1cwt. Eight horsemen take part in a game, four on each side. The ball is propelled by the horses' knees, and an expert rider often makes his animal punt it the whole length of the field. On Wednesday evening three excellent pictures of the great race for the Blue Riband of the Turf were presented to an enthusiastic audience. The Urban Company, in spite of the exceptionally bad weather, had succeeded in securing fine reproductions of the start, the rounding of Tattenham-corner, and the finish at the post. The arrival of St. Amant first past the post was the signal for a rare outburst of cheering. Into that fine ballet *All the Year Round* Mr George Scott, the manager, has introduced the new radium dance, which comes in the scene just preceding the final apotheosis of the seasons. The stage and auditorium are first thrown into darkness, and some sixteen dancers in costumes that look somewhat ghostly flit about in the Cimmerian gloom—a pretty effect, indeed, for any fairy play. Whether radium will ever become cheap enough for the purposes of the theatre is a question that need not be discussed here, but there seems to be great possibilities in its application to stage effects. The new variety turns lately introduced by Mr Scott include Miss Rosina Caselli and her Chihuahua dogs, pretty tiny creatures that seem to take a delight in their stage work. They are driven on in a motor car by a canine chauffeur, and immediately proceed to their "business" in quite a matter-of-fact way. One of the pets is a horizontal bar artiste, and somersaults from his perch to the mat in quite the orthodox way. Another emulates the clown by swinging round one of the uprights of the apparatus. A wheel propelled by a cohort ot dogs is successfully promenaded, and another of the troupe walks the tight rope. The show is a very attractive one, and is very smartly worked, Miss Caselli being recalled with much heartiness at its conclusion. A travesty of wrestling is very comically exploited by Marzello and Millay, who are thoroughly up to date in their skit, which parodies with much humour the Græco-Roman style—so popular at this theatre as well as at other houses. The wrigglings and twistings and turnings on the carpet are extremely whimsical, and cause loud laughter. A very remarkable performer is Vanola, a foot equilibrist who, besides the usual feats of twirling a barrel by means of the toes, keeps that object on the spin when it is placed on a large ball, which is also kept going. Vanola also balances the barrel on a pyramid of three balls—a trick that requires the nicest sense of adjustment and which must have taken him some months of practice to perfect. All Alhambra frequenters are fascinated by the beauty of Miss Lallah Selbini, who juggles with a dainty parasol, a large hat, and other things. She at first cycles in a pretty gown, in which she sits sideways. Such a method, however, does not seem quite in accord with her athletic tastes, and, quickly removing her frock, she appears in a tight-fitting garb that "expresses" the outlines of a charming figure. She has all sorts of wheels to propel, and with such a pretty performance the wheel of fortune should always give a turn in her favour. Les Therèses include a smart card manipulator and an acrobat, who comes from the auditorium to undergo apparently a process of mesmerism. Under hypnotic influence he does some very smart balancing feats; but by the wink of his eye and the smile on his cheek one can gather that the whole athletic performance does not require any other agent than well-trained limbs and exceptional strength. The Burnells give an excellent show of pantomimic fun; and the Three Alberts, wire and hand equilibrists, start the programme with a capital display; Miss Florence Yayman, whom we also know as Mam'zelle Flossie, is responsible for a lively eccentric dance which completely takes the fancy of the house; and the bill is completed by Mr Ian Colquhoun. Mr G. W. Byng conducts the fine orchestra in a selection from *The Cherry Girl*, by Ivan Caryll.

THE METROPOLITAN.

The absence of Miss Marie Lloyd on Derby night robbed the programme here of one of its chief attractions, but such is the length of the strong bill arranged for the current week by the astute Mr Jack Edgar that the absence was not seriously felt. The announcement of Miss Lloyd's inability to appear was conspicuously displayed over the box-office, and Miss Daisy Jerome deputised for her. This fascinating lady from the ranks of musical comedy was responsible for the rendering of a saucy song that may be known as "The naughty little word," and she won a hearty reception also in her favoured song, "Oh, Mister Moon," which was followed by a pretty dance. Miss Jerome's success was instantaneous, and was well deserved. Early in the evening Miss Flo Penley demonstrated her right to the title of "sparkling comedienne" by her chic rendering of the song in praise of country joys known as "All among the hay and the clover." Of Miss Emmie Ames and her descriptive scena, *'Neath the Shadow of Great Big Ben*, we had occasion to speak last week, and its success seems to grow with each succeeding night. The popular little comedienne renders it with considerable verve and vigour, and the enthusiasm of those in front is testified by cheers and applause. Professor Dunning, a ventriloquist of considerable resource, is to be seen later on in the bill as the gentleman of the duo Kahn and Kahn, conjurors. He multiplies billiard balls and produces gigantic flags from space, and his fascinating partner is also a deft sleight-of-hand performer. An amusing duologue, *A Little Bit of Bacon*, displays mirth-provoking qualities, and its dialogue is rendered very cleverly by Benson and Geoffreys, a lively pair of comedians, who make the most of the whimsical situations so neatly planned. The playlet goes to an accompaniment of roars of laughter. A reception of the most uproarious kind is reserved also for *Black Justice*, a farce that still preserves those qualities that make for popularity, in spite of its age. Little George Le Clerq as the constable and big Ben Brown as the judge are just as funny as of yore, and the gentleman who plays the part of the pleading barrister makes an excellent foil for his companions. The sketch has a lively finish, when some girls dance a lively measure to the strains of a street organ. While it is so humorously handled it will be a long time before the British public tire of the buffoonery of *Black Justice*. Mr Fred Cary is among the most successful of the new comedians in the bill. In a song studded with much amusing pantomime he laments the poorness of the English language in not supplying words that sufficiently express the acuteness of certain awkward situations. Anyone who watches Mr Cary will discover that he depends as much on his own resources as upon his song-writer, and it was a pity that he had no opportunity of singing a second song on the night of our visit. Mr George Robey is rightly termed the prime minister of mirth, and his Mayor of Mud-cum-Dyke increases in comic importance and droll suavity every evening. Another side-splitting sketch is *Motoring*, in which Mr Harry Tate has established his fame as a comedian. Datas, the man of memory, was asked many extraordinary questions during the night of our visit, one of the stallites wishing information as to the name of the wife of Alexander the Great. The question was not answered, and the omission was quite excusable, as there was considerable clamour. The lady inquired for was Roxana, who had a posthumous son by the great conqueror. Her reputation was a "questionable" one. Mr Leo Stormont is repeating his stirring song concerning the gallant lifeboat men of our coasts; and others on the bill are Mr L. B. Athol, comedian; Mr Charles Dillon, comedian; the Sisters Leon, character duettists; the Evalos, in their new comic juggling and gymnastic mélange; Miss Dot Hardy, who is quite successful in a low comedy essay; Mezzetti and Mora, graceful and intrepid horizontal bar performers; Payne's Vagabonds, with boy and girl comedians and a capital siffleur; Miss Daisy Mayer, with "Good morning, Mr Jenkins," and a wonderful exhibition of buck dancing; and Duncan's Scotch collies, in a very pretty performance.

THE STANDARD.

The large audience present on Monday at the old-established and admirably governed variety house opposite Victoria Station was provided with an excellent evening's entertainment, Mr T. S. Dickie's programme being of the usual attractive and interesting character. An especially appreciated item was the vocal interlude given by Park's Eton Boys, seven smartly trained youths, all possessing excellent voices, the many popular songs they gave including "Oh, Genevieve," "Drinking," "There's nobody just like you," and "The Military Band." One or two of the numbers might have been taken in quicker time, but all were, otherwise, admirably rendered, the accompaniments being carefully played on the piano by the principal of the troupe, evidently an accomplished performer. Each selection was loudly acclaimed, and such was the enjoyment derived from their stay that the youngsters might have considerably prolonged their concert had time permitted. Early in the evening a humorous impersonation of a Scotchman was given by Mr Wal Croft, his song "I've not been in London before" being a really funny and much appreciated selection. Miss Jennie Reeve, a comedienne with a good appearance and an excellent style of delivering her songs, was loudly applauded for her first ditty, "Let every boy have his little girl," her other song, "I wonder what he meant by that?" also being admirably rendered. The Zampas, a pair of hard-working and clever duettists and dancers, appeared as "The Smartest Pair in Town," and also executed with much skill a sand dance, their turn being decidedly attractive and acceptable. Stave, in his Indian electrical speciality, managed to extract music from a huge property lion by shaking his tail, legs, and mane, and won applause for his playing on an electrically illuminated banjo, his entire turn giving evident satisfaction to the audience; and the three selections of Mr Paul Pelham were all received with favour. His first song, "Never Done," had reference to woman's work—likewise her tongue, the many funny lines it contained especially appealing to the male portion of the audience; and the popular comedian also scored with a "Hiawatha" lament and his Fiscal song, "Good Old Joe." Mr Sam Mayo continues to warble "I never stopped running till I got home" to the accompaniment of loud laughter, the immobile one also giving another comic song that was much enjoyed: and Dezmonti and Mora, clever triple bar performers, won some of the loudest applause heard during the evening for their skilful and attractive exhibition The talented young concertina player, Mr Percy Honri, was heard with pleasure in his fine rendering of The Shepherds' Dance, from *Henry VIII.*, and also gave with much expertness imitations of different musical instruments, his clever and varied entertainment being cordially received. The bâton twirling and slack-wire walking of Celest was accomplished with all the ease and sureness that one expects from such a practised performer, and the applause bestowed at the conclusion of his turn was most lavish. The favourite comedienne Miss Daisy James appeared first as a reformed, but fascinatingly demure young lady who conducts a class to which "young men are specially invited," and also sang the popular song "Won't you come home, Bill Bailey?" much to the delight of the occupants of the upper circle, who were enabled to display their familiarity with the refrain. The versatile comedienne also gave a clever and amusing impersonation of a precocious "kiddy," and her enjoyable turn was punctuated with abundant laughter and applause. An exceptionally interesting and varied series of animated pictures were shown on the Edisonograph, including The Coster's Wedding (a good comic), A Tragic Elopement and its Sequel, An Irish Wake, Trained Parrots, Scenes Along the Trans-Siberian Railway, and the clever trick film Barnum's Trunk. Mr John E. Coyle, comedian, and the Frances Harrold company, in *Nell Gwynne*, are also in the entertaining programme. Mr Maurice Volny is Mr T. S. Dickie's able first lieutenant, and he has a courteous assistant in Mr W. Norman, the orchestra being under the careful direction of Mr J. E. Turner.

THE BEDFORD.

Mr B. Pearce Lucas and Mr A. F. Lovesy, his courteous manager, are fighting the forces of dullness at the Camden-town palace of amusement with excellent programmes, and the current bill is particularly varied and attractive. Miss Katie Lawrence is a strong card, and her popularity was never more apparent at the Bedford than it has been during her present engagement. She sings the much-discussed song "Oh, Charlie, come to me," with much piquancy and effectiveness, and the faithless Charlie himself appears in a private box with another lady, but is quite anxious seemingly to return to the old love. The scene highly amuses the Bedford patrons, who gives Camden-town's favourite comedienne the heartiest welcome possible. The comic star of the bill is Mr Sam Mayo, announced as the immobile comedian, in whose honour a grand singing competition took place last night. To an old nursery tune Mr Mayo sings without gesture of any kind lines that intensely amuse the audience, and he further evokes laughter in some verses that are set to the well-known refrain of "So early in the morning." Music is always a pleasant factor in an entertainment, and the Bodina Trio of vocalists are responsible for some spirited concerted pieces, and the lady for some well-rendered solos. Their entertainment winds up with a pot-pourri of operatic choruses from *Faust* and other similar works; but it would be mightily improved if the guitars and mandolines were more carefully tuned. Speciality artistes is the term applied to Steel and Laing. The lady is an attractive and agile dancer, her skipping-rope exercise being a graceful exhibition, and her partner is a very fine acrobat, and an eccentric to boot. Their turn is a versatile one, and brings down the house. Versatility also marks the doings of Miss Eva Kelland, a smart male impersonator, who sings a coon song in the style of a coster and a dude, and has only to get rid of a certain affectation of delivery to get on. The marvellous Jansons include a gentleman who is a skilful slack wire and ring performer, his clever exhibition of trained muscle and limb being conducted on a steel trapeze held by the lady, who hangs head downwards from a high-fixed bar. Madame holds the slack wire in her teeth the while her partner accomplishes a few feats thereon. Mr Fred Walker, comedian, is able to give droll expression to the misfortunes of "a most unlucky man," and among the deputies appearing on the night of our visit we may mention Mr George Collins, who depicted a joyous widow named Martha—married twice, but who still would go to the altar. Mr Collins's terra cotta garters—not unduly displayed—and scarlet petticoat seemed to cause an immense amount of amusement among the ladies of the audience. Miss Deany Ford, another deputy, sang "I'se a waiting for you, Josie," very effectively; and other variety turns on the bill included Miss Violet Wells, comedienne; Satsuma, a Japanese conjuror; and Harry Martell, comedian and dancer. The sketch of the bill is supplied by Edward Ranier and company, who present *The Bank Robbery*. Herein the plot revolves round a dishonest bank manager, who is "wanted," and his head clerk—a detective in disguise. The latter is indeed a veritable Sherlock Holmes, and the author is under some obligation to Sir Conan Doyle. The thrilling interview between the manager—who reminds one strongly of Moriarty, in Mr William Gillette's version of *Sherlock Holmes*—and the detective is particularly effective, and causes much excitement. It is an excellent wind-up to a sound entertainment.

MR. WILL SPEARMAN'S WEDDING.

Winchmore Hill is a quiet, sedate, suburban district, but its rural seclusion and calm were ruffled on Wednesday by the excitement of a wedding at the local church, St. Paul's. The happy couple were Mr William C. Spearman, the acting-manager of the Islington Empire, and Miss Rosa Louise Byrne, a niece of Mr G. Adney Payne. The morning proved wet and gloomy, but happily the clouds cleared, and while the ceremony was being celebrated, the sun shone forth brightly to gladden the occasion. There was a numerous assemblage at St. Paul's Church, a modern building with stained glass windows. The ceremony was fixed for two, and the clock had struck the hour when the bride arrived under the escort of her stepfather, Mr John Emerton, who gave her away. She held in her hand a splendid white shower bouquet of roses and carnations. The extremely handsome bridal costume was of ivory Duchesse satin, the bodice box-pleated, and the yoke and upper part of the sleeves of ivory embroidered lace. The lower part of the sleeves was accordion-pleated and held up in front with lisse. The fichu was of embroidered chiffon caught up on the left shoulder with orange blossoms. The skirt was trimmed with ruchings of chiffon and lisse appliques. The bridesmaids were Miss Amy Byrne and little Miss Gladys Emerton (sisters of the bride), and Master Cyril Culver (nephew of the bride) acted as page. Miss Byrne's dress was of crème crepe-de-chine, and the accordion pleated skirt had insertions of guipure lace. The little girl and boy wore pretty costumes of white Liberty satin, and the bridesmaids carried bouquets of red and white roses. The bridal costume was supplied by Mr R. J. C. Mackeand, of Islington. The service was choral, and the hymns sung included "The voice that breathed o'er Eden" and "O, perfect love." The Rev. A. J. B. Dewdney, the vicar of St. Paul's, conducted the service, and the bride's step brother, Mr Frank Emerton, acted as best man. A reception was afterwards held at the home of the bride's mother, The Firs, Winchmore Hill. After refreshments had been served in a marquee erected on the lawn the bridal party were photographed, the whole of the company, with the bride and bridegroom in the centre, forming another group. Subsequently the happy couple took their departure for Devonshire.

The guests included Mrs Walter Gibbons, Miss Payne, Miss Ida Payne, Mr and Mrs John Culver, Mr and Mrs C. V. Radcliffe, Mr and Mrs Garner, Miss Culver, Mr and Mrs John Arber, Mr Percy H. Arber, the Misses May and Iris Arber, Miss Crowder, Mrs Clement Tory, Miss Weston, Mr Sydney F. B. Weston, the Rev. A. J. B. Dewdney, Mr and Mrs Fred Whittam, Mr J. R. C. Mackeand, Mr and Mrs Morrison, Mr O'Mahoney, Mr and Mrs Ovenston, Miss May Harman, Miss Cornell, Mr and Mrs Ottoway, Mr John Other, and Mr A. Cory Woodrow.

The wedding presents were numerous and valuable, the list being as follows:—Bridegroom to the bride, a gold curb chain bracelet; bride to bridegroom, a gold ring; Mr and Mrs Emerton, grand piano and household goods; Miss Amy Byrne (sister of the bride) and Mr Percy Arber, sewing machine; Mr Frank Emerton, silver plate for table; Mr Spearman, cutlery and old china; Miss Emerton, silver tea-pot; Miss Gladys and Master J. and A. Emerton, brass curb and fire-irons; Mr and Mrs J. Culver, dinner service; Mr and Mrs F. Whittam, silver bread platter and knife; Mr and Mrs Walter Gibbons, silver cream-jug, sugar and tongs; Mr G. Adney Payne, silver tea-pot; Miss Payne, double silver jam dish and spoon; Miss Ida Payne, pair of silver muffineers; Mr and Mrs H. J. Emerton, case of fish eaters; Mr and Mrs Tebbott, claret jug (silver-mounted); Miss Crowder, pair of Worcester ornaments; Rev. and Mrs A. J. B. Dewdney, Benares and carved oak tea-table; Mrs Weston and family, silver salver; Mrs Clement Tory, silver entrée dish; Mr Mackeand, silver egg-stand; Mr Bremner, pair of ornaments; Mr and Mrs Radcliffe, silver entree dish; Mr and Mrs Morrison, silver cake basket; Rev. A. Thorley, a book; Mr and Mrs Frost, silver salts, spoons, mustard-pot in case; Mr and Mrs Osborne and family, an epergne; Mr and Mrs Ottaway, silver photo. frame; Mr and Mrs Maxwell, handkerchiefs; Mr and Mrs Garner, brass fern pot and ebony stand; Mr and Mrs Stansfield, silver sugar-sifter; Mr Hearn, tableglass; Mrs Tory, drawn teacloth; Mr and Mrs Ovenston, silver tea-spoons; Mrs Sarjeant, silver serviette ring; Mrs Moore, barometer; the Misses Culver, silver bread scoop; Mr and Mrs Whittam, silver card-case; the maids, epergne; Mr and Mrs Alfred Bishop, biscuit-box; Mr and Mrs Frederick Hawes, pickle-jar on stand; Mr S. and J. Blaiberg, coal cabinet; Miss C. Foord, silver button-hook; Miss M. and S. Arber, silver cut-glass decanter; Mrs Arber, real lace handkerchief; Mr and Mrs Allworthy, wrought iron and copper fern-pot and stand; Messrs Tribe and Son, two gilt mirrors with candelabras; Mrs Spring and family, silver and oak salad bowl; Islington Empire staff, clock and bronzes; Miss Carwall, bread fork; Mr and Mrs Pailthorpe, pair of ornaments; Misses Harman, silver scent-bottle; Misses Gilbert, earrings; Mr and Mrs John Lawson, silver jewel-case; Mr and Mrs John Arber, silver butter-dish; Misses Jonghmans, fancy silver spoons in case; Mr E. T. Bagshaw, pair of silver vases.

MISS VESTA TILLEY IN CARDIFF.

On Saturday evening an extraordinary scene was witnessed at the Empire, Cardiff, when Miss Vesta Tilley appeared at the second performance. The popular artiste had given several encores, and another turn was announced. But the audience would not have it. The staging for the succeeding turn was put in place, but the din was deafening, and Miss Tilley had to appear and bow her acknowledgments. This even was not enough. The audience, hundreds upstanding, would not allow the programme to proceed. In the end, the "star" number again went up, the staging was rearranged, and Miss Tilley gave another turn. The incident is almost unprecedented, and the extraordinary enthusiasm that prevailed and the clamorous excitement show to what extent Miss Tilley can capture an audience.—*South Wales Echo*, Monday, May 30.

MR ERNEST ABBOTT, formerly assistant-manager at the Royal, has resigned his position as manager at the Cambridge.

"A PRISONER OF THE CZAR."

A Dramatic Sketch, in One Act, by Dora Deane and Fred G. Brooke. Music by E. T. De Banzie. Produced at the Palace Theatre of Varieties, Bow, on Monday, May 30.

Lord William Carysfort... Mr FRED G. BROOKE
General Ivan Louroff .... Mr F. VERNON TRAVERS
Colonel Hector Muravitch Mr GRAHAM WOODS
Lieutenant Paul Navair.. Mr EDWIN F. COLLINS
Naomi Navair ..... Miss KATHARINE CLARKE
Lady Barbara Luttrell .. Miss DORA DEANE

Mr Fred G. Brooke can rightly claim to be one of the most prolific of our writers of playlets, and his previous one-act drama, also written in conjunction with Miss Dora Deane, entitled *A Lost Woman*, attracted crowded houses wherever it was presented. In their latest work, *A Prisoner of the Czar*, these two authors can be said to have eclipsed all previous efforts. In order to be up to date they take us to the land which at the present moment, in view of the war between Russia and Japan, looms large in the public mind. The story, from beginning to end, is told in the drawing-room of the palace of Lady Barbara Luttrell, an Englishwoman residing in Manchuria. Lady Barbara is discussing the war with a companion, the two ladies being surrounded by their servants, some of whom are attired in the picturesque Japanese dress. Their attention is suddenly diverted by the sound of rifle shots, and a few seconds later a wounded soldier rushes into the room begging for sanctuary from his pursuers. He is Lieutenant Paul Navair, who, having struck a superior officer, has been condemned to death. Lady Barbara gives him the shelter he wants, and when the searching party, headed by Colonel Hector Muravitch, presently enters, she tells the latter on her word of honour that the man they seek is not there. The Colonel returns later, unaccompanied, and when he and Lady Barbara are alone he assures her of his deep affection and begs her to become his wife. As a further inducement he promises that the prisoner, whom he knows is in her house, shall not be interfered with. Her reply to his matrimonial solicitations is, "I will——think about it." The last three words are spoken in an undertone, unheard by her companion. The Colonel having made his exit, we are next introduced to Lord Carysfort, brother to Lady Barbara, who chides him for the gay, useless life he has led, and points out to him the advantages of marrying a respectable woman like Naomi Navair, for whom he already feels some considerable affection. He tells his sister that he will give up his old habits, marry Naomi, and become a fresh man. He keeps to his word, and proposes to Naomi. The latter, in a pathetic scene, tells him that were he to become acquainted with her history he would shun her as he would shun black death. Then she opens out to him the sorrows of her heart and the story of her past life. Her father was a Nihilist, whose attempt on the life of the Czar resulted in his being transported to Siberia. In her efforts to obtain his freedom she met one Franz Muller, a notorious spy, who promised to procure her father's release on one condition. That condition entailed the loss of her honour. In her mental agony and anxiety for the safety of her parent she consented to the terrible bargain, but the penalty was paid in vain, for her father was murdered two days subsequent to his release. In the depth of her despair she tells Lord Carysfort that the barrier of sin is too great to permit of their being united as man and wife. He, however, is willing to overlook her past, for he regards the sacrifice made on her father's behalf as her salvation. When Lady Barbara rejoins them, she is at first delighted to hear of the engagement which has been arranged in her absence. But an objector is found in the person of Colonel Muravitch, who relates to Lady Barbara what he knows concerning the guilty intimacy that existed between Naomi and Franz Muller, who was supposed to have committed suicide three years previously on being sentenced to death as a spy. There is a stormy scene, in which Lady Barbara and the Colonel urge that if this union takes place the doors of society will be closed to Lord Carysfort for ever. His lordship is obdurate; he will hear of no one coming between Naomi and himself. Nay, more, he is prepared to turn his back upon society and start life again as a poor man, and together with Naomi as his wife struggle along with "the help of God and love." If his sister will not agree to the marriage, he threatens to leave with Naomi for England at once, and finally he bids farewell to Lady Barbara and quits the place. Muravitch, who has been recognised as Franz Muller by Naomi, finding that his plans have failed in one direction, and feeling that it would be disastrous to the success of his scheme were Naomi to become the wife of Lord Carysfort, trys to secure his ends in another way. He has previously given to Lord Carysfort a document which he believes to be a pardon for Lieut. Navair, but which is really a plan of the harbour and fortifications of Port Arthur. He now approaches Naomi with the offer of a reprieve for her brother provided she leaves the country with him the same night, and breaks off her engagement with Lord Carysfort, who, she is informed, has deserted her and sailed for England. She declines to believe this latter statement, but is about to consent to his terms for her brother's sake when the latter walks into the room and confronts the Colonel. He declines to allow his sister to be made use of in such a manner, and recalling the cruel treatment muted out to her three years previously by Franz Muller, now posing as Colonel Hector Muravitch, he offers to fight him man to man. The Colonel, however, is more of a diplomatist; he urges the young refugee to listen to reason and to fully appreciate the danger of his position, as the house is surrounded by soldiers. For her brother's sake Naomi agrees to consider Lord Carysfort no longer her lover, and to leave the neighbourhood at once with Paul. Colonel Muravitch then hands to Lieutenant Navair a paper containing what he believes to be the plans of Port Arthur, but which is really the pardon obtained from the General. A little later brother and sister are brought before General Ivan Louroff as spies, charged by Colonel Muravitch. Then the truth comes out, Lord Carysfort produces the plans which were handed to him by the Colonel; it is proved that the latter is no other than Franz Muller, the spy, who murdered the real Colonel Muravitch and himself assumed the name, at the same time circulating the report that Franz Muller had committed suicide.

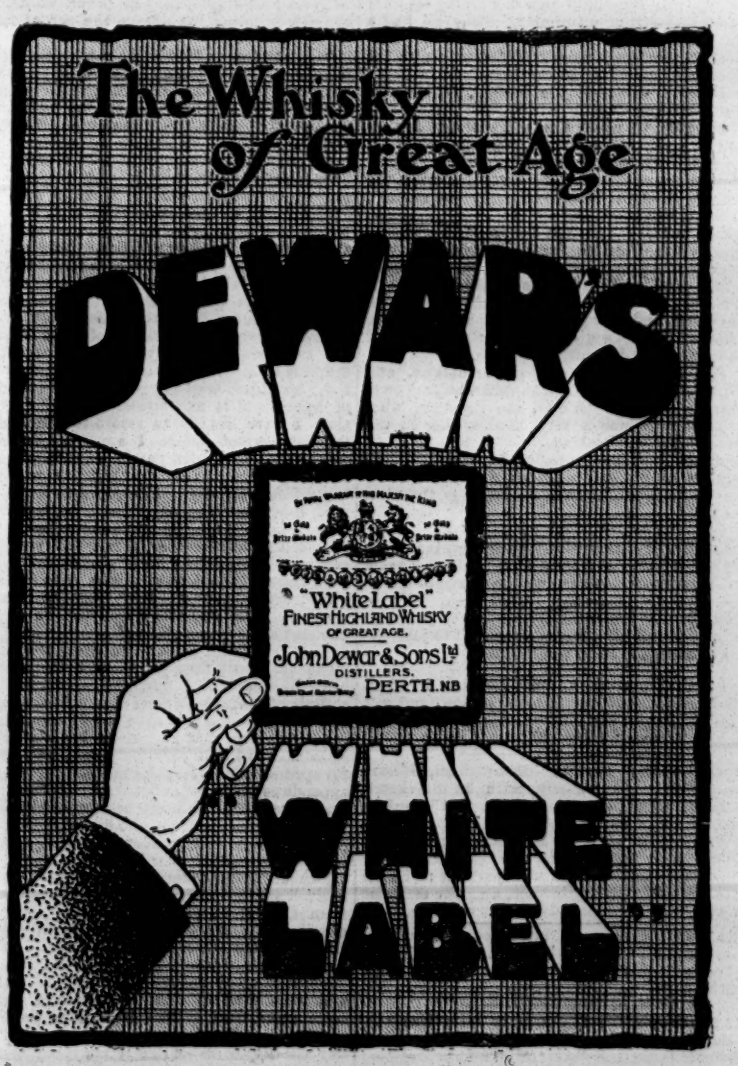
Mr Fred G. Brooke was thoroughly at home in the part of Lord William Carysfort, both in the more humorous aspects which "Billy" at times assumed, and also when, towards the end, he showed himself to be a man of a forceful turn of mind. Miss Dora Deane has before now demonstrated that she possessed considerable power and skill of no mean order, and more than once in her characterisation of Lady Barbara Luttrell she struck a note of intensity in her acting which gave one the idea that she should take a high place as a tragedienne. But she shone almost as well in the softer moods, and her work throughout was excellent. The somewhat difficult rôle of Naomi Navair was in the capable hands of Miss Katharine Clarke, who very cleverly portrayed the sad emotions of the much-wronged girl, whose devotion to her father and her brother in their distress brought her on more than one occasion to the brink of disgrace, if not of death itself. Mr Edwin J. Collins submitted a very acceptable and manly rendering of the part of Lieutenant Paul Navair, and Mr F. Vernon Travers gave a first-rate representation of the elderly General Ivan Louroff. Mr Graham Woods was seen to advantage in a finished and well-studied performance of the villainous Franz Muller. The playlet was beautifully mounted and dressed.

AT the Empire Palace, Birmingham, this week, Miss Amelia Lagreze, who possesses an exceptional voice, has been vociferously applauded, and Miss Ray Wallace, in her clever impersonations, is a favourite. W. C. Fields does a clever juggling act; as a farmyard mimic O'Gust excels; R. H. Douglas gives his monologues with success; and some quaint songs are rendered by Dion Wade in his happiest manner. C. F. Johnson, coloured vocalist; Maud Venn, comedienne; Jack Charman, boy vocalist; the Maningos, head balancers; and the Adonis Trio are also in the bill.

MR J. W. TATE, who, in conjunction with Clifford Harris, has of late fitted with songs many artists of foremost rank, is joining hands with Mr St. John Denton in agency business for the variety stage. A musical comedy from Mr Tate's pen will be probably seen at a West-end house during the present year.

ON Mr Eric Graham's eighth return visit to the Grand, Gravesend, Mr David Hart, the manager, presented him with a beautiful large opal scarf-pin.

MR FLORIAN FRETELLI, variety agent, has been fortunate in discovering a most phenomenal singer, Mr Roberti, Australia's aboriginal basso, who has arrived in London. The new vocalist is certain to be secured at the principal halls.



THE OXFORD MEETING.

The twelfth annual meeting of the shareholders of the Oxford, Limited, was held on Tuesday at the Oxford, W., under the presidency of Mr HARRY TOZER (the chairman of the company).

The Secretary (Mr Ilford Ibbetson) having read the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report,

The CHAIRMAN said: The twelfth anniversary of our meeting here as shareholders, to consider the balance-sheet and the profits for the year, records a position of constantly-growing prosperity. As a result, we are able to-day to recommend the distribution of an excellent dividend, supplemented by a good bonus, as well as a substantial addition to the reserve fund. For the twelve months ended April 30 the net profits have amounted to £18,612 4s. 3d., which sum is slightly in excess of 1903. In my address to the shareholders last year I pointed out that we had not hitherto written down the asset of premises and goodwill; but we have considered that the time has arrived when we may commence to do so, and, looking to the fact that six years of your present board's stewardship have elapsed, we have decided to reduce the amount of this asset by £3,000. There can be, I am sure, but one opinion as to the course we have adopted, which we feel confident will meet with your hearty approval. Every expense or liability incurred during the past year has been duly met or provided for in the accounts, the details of which are before you, and no balance-sheet presented to a body of shareholders can be sounder than such as we submit to-day. In adopting the policy we have done we have had to take into consideration the possibility of general circumstances curtailing the receipts or increasing the expenditure, the posibility of closer competition, and the possibility of other conditions arising to temporarily affect our great popularity. We have no particular anticipation of any of these things, but we feel that the interests of this company will be best studied by maintaining a thoroughly conservative financial policy.

Our licensing authority, the County Council, have for the present exhausted their demands upon us, so far as we know. They have recognised, we trust, that our aim is, as it has always been, to provide a healthy entertainment and to maintain a safe and sound building. We hear sometimes of fads and fancies; but I hope we may always rely upon the common-sense and just consideration of those whose duty it is to decide what is reasonable as against what is ridiculous. Recently someone has suggested, I believe, the substitution of slopes for stairs in all parts of theatres. For generations past we have been living in a fool's paradise; steps and stairs are a mistake; they should be replaced by slopes and slides, so that an audience could be more easily pushed or rolled out in an emergency. The Oxford clears its fullest audience in three minutes, and most of the variety theatres are equally quick; so that such a suggestion, involving many thousands of pounds increased cost to any theatre, has no practical *raison d'être* whatever. A question that is engaging public attention just now in connection with variety theatres—the sketch question—is, I hope, likely soon to be settled by agreement and by legislation. At present it may be said to be sub judice, and I do not purpose, therefore, discussing it here to-day. Primarily, we are met to consider the report and accounts; and, pointing out to you that the reserve fund will amount, with the addition of £5,000 from this year's profits, to £28,000 (separately invested, and earning in itself 1 per cent. upon the capital of the company), I now beg to move their adoption, the resolution being: "That the directors' report and accounts for the year ended April 30, 1904, recommending a dividend of 6 per cent., less income-tax, for the half-year ended April 30, also a bonus of 2s. 6d. per share, free of tax, together equal to 12½ per cent. for the year, placing £5,000 to the general reserve fund, and carrying forward the sum of £5,748 5s. 10d. to the current year's accounts, be, and are hereby, adopted."

Mr G. ADNEY PAYNE (managing director) seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

Mr H. H. WELLS proposed the re-election of Mr Henry Sutton, the retiring director. He remarked that it was some six years ago that the shareholders elected that gentleman on the board, and he was voicing the opinion of his colleagues in saying that they had at all times found Mr Sutton a most useful addition. He would take this opportunity of referring to a statement, which had lately appeared in a trade paper, to the effect that there were differences of opinion on the board. He could only assure the shareholders that since he had been on the board, which was some seven or eight years, the present directors had worked together in the most harmonious manner, and were now working together in a perfect spirit of unanimity. They all had a very large interest in the company in the shape of shareholding, and he himself could claim to be the second largest holder in the company.

Mr TURNER seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

Mr SUTTON thanked the shareholders for his re-election, and said he should continue to do his utmost in the interests of those he represented.

Mr WARD moved, and Mr DAVIS seconded, the reappointment of Mr Robert Lindsey as auditor, which was unanimously agreed to.

Mr YEO moved, "That the thanks of the meeting be given to the directors for their successful services during the past year, and that, in accordance with the articles of association, 500 guineas be voted to them as extra remuneration." He observed that a clearer and more satisfactory account than that which had been given of their position and affairs it would be difficult to imagine.

Mr ERNEST POLDEN seconded the motion, and said he thought the thanks of the shareholders were also due to Mr Albert Gilmer, the manager, who, to his knowledge, was a very hard worker in the interests of the undertaking.

The motion was unanimously adopted,

A vote of thanks was accorded Mr Tozer for his conduct in the chair, and the proceedings then terminated.

THE subject of conscription for our army is already a topic at the halls, and Mr Arthur Roberts during the week has been singing some encore verses on the subject, in his popular contribution "Viens, Poupoule." Mr Eustace Baynes is the author," who suggests that all persons compelled to join the army will naturally be in the "Blues."

MISS MAY HENDERSON, the popular dusky Princess, finishes to-night her London season, and will open on Monday at the Empire, Nottingham. She will return to town on June 20 for ten weeks.

AT the Gaiety Theatre, Birmingham, Messrs Collinson and company are appearing in the sketch *Club Raid*, which goes well; Harry Clifford is encored for songs, as also is Kitty Rayburn. The Bros. Artois in their bar-act are amusing; De Pace Bros. in their musical act are excellent; the Avrignys are smart Japanese jugglers; Helen Charles has a fine contralto voice, and the series of views with the Cinématograph is entertaining.

MISS MARIE ELSIE will introduce a new baby song on Monday, "Charley's gone away and Billy's come to me." Little Billy will appear on the stage with Miss Elsie.

THE marriage of Mr R. James to Miss Finnette, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Howard Baker, of Continental fame, and sister of the Lazy Juggler, Tom Hearn, and Regal, the Impossible Juggler, took place on Monday at Brixton Church. The young couple start for America on Wednesday next. They have received many congratulations and hearty good wishes.

ELECTRO-HYPNOTISM
BY
DR. WALFORD BODIE.

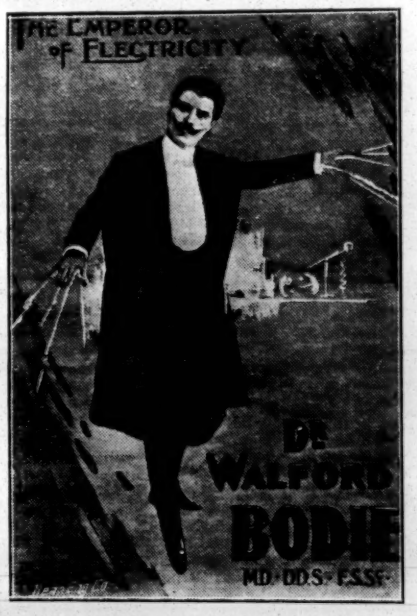
LECTURE AND DEMONSTRATION.

On Monday afternoon, at the Britannia Theatre, Dr. Walter Bodie gave a remarkable demonstration of his wonderful powers to a select audience partly composed of members of the London press. The Doctor commenced with a short lecture on hypnotism. Mesmerism, he said, was not a new science, it could be traced back to the Dark Ages. He claimed to have done more than anyone to advance that science in this country since the days of Dr. Braid. Many people imagined that to be hypnotised, one must be weak-minded and ill-educated. That was not his experience; he had found that the people with good intellectual faculties made the best mediums. There was a general misunderstanding about hypnotism, but in spite of that he thought that no man had a right to say that he did not believe in it because it might be beyond his comprehension. Had he told them half a century ago that telegraphic communication between two countries separated by the Atlantic Ocean would be possible, or had he told them that he could show them every bone in their bodies through their flesh, or had he informed them a few years ago that it would be possible for him to have the sounds of his voice bottled up so that they could be listened to long after his death they would not have believed him. Yet all these things were now accomplished facts.

Dr. Bodie went on to talk about the horrors of premature burial, during the course of which he made the somewhat disquieting statement that from two to three per cent of our population were buried alive. "We must," he said, "keep our dead a little longer than we do, and with that object in view, I suggest employing a coffin in the lid of which there shall be a glass window so that the face can be seen. Otherwise, there is no proof of death until mortification has set in."

In introducing his daring death chair and electrocution experiment, the doctor denounced the mode of carrying out the death penalty in New York as being inhuman and cruel. It was far from being painless and instantaneous, because before a man could be killed by electricity, every fibre and every muscle in his body had to be "fused" or burnt out. He was greatly in favour of hanging as at present practised in England. The Doctor then proceeded with his experiment. A man was placed in the death chair, to which he was firmly bound. Dr. Bodie put him under hypnotic influence, and a current of from 2,000 to 3,000 volts of electricity was passed through the doctor's frame into the man's body. The man was afterwards safely brought round to his normal condition.

Continuing his discourse, the Doctor stated that he considered electricity to be not merely the coming motive power, but the coming curative power. Few people dare use such a high voltage of electricity



DR. WALFORD BODIE.

as he himself employed. In other words, he ran the risk of losing his life in the act of healing a paralytic patient. It would be utterly impossible in many instances for his patients to emerge safely from the strain of the enormous current unless they were under hypnotic influence or under the influence of some anæsthetic. He placed his patients in an unconscious state by the use of hypnotism and he never employed chloroform. In a few minutes—sometimes in a few seconds—they were absolutely insensible, and they did not feel the slightest inconvenience from the great volume of electricity which he passed through their frames. No medical man, as far as he was aware, had been able to duplicate his experiments. He was the first in this country to test the high frequency current, by means of which he was able to pass a little over a million volts, but the higher the voltage the less was the danger. At the same time he was not a believer altogether in the use of high frequency in the treatment of paralysis, having tried it and found it to be unsuccessful in numerous cases. "It has," he added, been admirably suited to some forms of hypochondria and hysteria. I find, however, that I have always to resort to the high intermittent current before I am able to show any extraordinary results, particularly in cases of long standing. You will observe that I am rather handicapped in one way. I only invite those patients who have been discharged from the hospitals after having been given up as hopeless by the leading physicians and surgeons. I may tell you that men and women who have been pronounced incurable, come to me like a drowning man who clutches at a straw, with some ray of hope that I may be able to alleviate their sufferings, and, as a rule, they are not sent away disappointed."

The Doctor made the somewhat startling statement that fully fifty per cent of the people who have been operated upon for appendicitus were suffering from nothing more than inflammation of the bowels. He was prepared to meet a commission and prove to them that he himself knew of over forty cases that had been absolutely ruined by operations for appendicitis. In point of fact, he had twenty appendices preserved in bottles, taken from patients, that were in an absolutely healthy condition.

A number of patients who had been cured by the Doctor on his visit to Hoxton six or seven weeks ago were brought forward and introduced. They all spoke in high terms of the good they had derived at his hands, and he received a testimonial from the father of one of them. The man in question was Mr James Mead, tram driver No. 22,153, whose little daughter, Minnie, was completely cured of paralysis. About a dozen fresh cases were treated on the stage, and the aforetime halt and lame gave up their crutches and walked—in some cases, ran. The Doctor, in proof of his statements, offered to give the sum of £5 000 to any charitable institution if anything he had said were found to be untrue. During his previous stay in Hoxton he treated no less than 700 persons, and £500 worth of leg-irons, &c, were handed to him by his grateful patients. At the present time he is the man of the moment in the East-end.

SHOWMEN IN COUNCIL.

SPECIAL TO THE ERA.

The annual meeting of the Van-dwellers' Association in Wales took place at Treorchy Fair, May 29. The excellent custom of holding a guild service (before the business meeting usually restricted to show people) was carried out with great success and acceptance. It being gloriously fine, the service was held in the open air. The choirs of the Treorchy churches were massed on the splendid parade front of Dooner's Cinématograph Exhibition. The local clergy, the Rev. T. Tissington, Vicar, and the Rev. Wm. Evans, Curate, assisted by the Rev. T. Horne, Hon. Organising Chaplain of the Showmen's Guild, took part in the service, which was joined in by a large concourse of the people of Treorchy and the whole body of show people at the fair. The Vicar and the Rev. T. Horne gave short addresses. After the benediction the showpeople assembled in the show, and the chair was taken by Mr Henry Studt, supported by Messrs John and Jacob Studt, Professor Lloyd, James and Richard Dooner, Wm. Haggar, the Brothers Plinston, John Cottrell, James Whayman, George Winsper, John and Edward North, E. Clarke, T. Lewis, John Fossett, J. Slocombe, H. Freeman, James Day, W. Moore, T. Unwin, Bert Jarvis, Prof. Ruby, W. North, Kinder, Odeby, Jones, Greatorex, Cullis, Phillips, Bushman, and many others.

Mr HENRY STUDT impressed upon his hearers the urgency of the duty before them as fairground amusement caterers. They must not think that because the Principality of Wales was fairly free from the mistaken interfering zeal of public bodies that, therefore, they were released from the necessity of supporting the Defence Fund and its necessary work for the whole of the kingdom. The English counties may be attacked to-day; the turn of Wales may come to-morrow. In their trade protection work and the preservation of their business interests the showmen of the Empire stood together. He felt sure that, as business people, they would take care of this, and loyally and generously support their Society. As a Welshman he gladly took part in its work, and was proud of the honour year by year given him by the Welsh showmen when they made him chairman of the meeting. He then called upon the hon. chaplain to propose a resolution.

The Rev. T. HORNE proposed that the Vicar of Treorchy (their Vicar whilst they were in his parish) be elected Hon. Local Chaplain for Treorchy and district. He testified to the readiness with which the Vicar had entered into the forward arrangements for their grand service in the open air, and the hospitality extended to himself as a visitor and Chaplain to the Guild by the clergy, choir, and the church people of Treorchy.

The CHAIRMAN seconded the motion, which was supported in felicitous terms by Professor LLOYD, and carried by acclamation.

The VICAR, in reply, said that he esteemed it a high honour and privilege to accept the position of local chaplain. He assured them that he would at all times endeavour to help them, and would avail himself gladly of any opportunity afforded him of ministering in their midst. He trusted they would make use of him, and he would do his best to prove himself a friend.

The Rev. T. HORNE then explained, at considerable length, the present position and work of the Guild. Wales, he said, had always been a generous supporter of its eminently necessary work. The largest sum of money in subscriptions taken at a divisional gathering of the Guild last year was at Porth. Over £22 was last year's record for Wales They realised, as their excellent chairman, Mr Studt, had asked them to remember, that trade defence was a national concern, and could not be limited to this or that part of the Empire. For example, last year the Guild spent in trade defence work for one section of the home counties £120; from that particular district their members only paid £7 in subscriptions. It was the strength of the united forces of showland that fought and won their past battles. With them it was peculiarly true that unity was strength. Their propaganda and press intelligence work had instructed and built up an appreciative and well-informed body of public opinion. Their guild was the recognised and representative organ of a highly skilled and necessary profession and industry. They ministered to the needs of the Empire in their ready and varied provision of open-air amusements. Here at Treorchy their visits were welcomed by the busy toilers in the mines. All through the empire they were proud of the support the people gave them. They strove hard to merit the public esteem, and a glance at the excellent shows on that ground fully justified the people's appreciation. With reference to their Parliamentary defence work, he confidently looked forward to a cessation of the insidious and most persistent attack by Private Bill Legislation. A year ago, at Porth, and again a year before that at Treorchy Fair, he had prophesied that it would be so. Now he was in the proud position of a prophet justified by the after-events. The Committee considering Private Bills in the House of Commons had this year given would-be enemies of theirs a most salutary lesson, the Corporation of Acton had been defeated, and, more than that, the committee condemned the corporation to pay the costs incurred by the Guild in opposing the Acton Bill. This was the final stage of the long series of hard, uphill struggles the Guild had gone through in Parliament. The past four sessions of Parliament had cost something like £1,500. They had won at every point, it was true, but the time and labour and the cost had been exhausting. They had had to pay to win; now justice was done to them, and the would-be wrongdoer was made to pay. Hence he concluded that peace was in sight, and that corporations and county councils, and other public bodies, would hesitate before running the risk of being cast in damages like Acton. With reference to the other and no less important work of their society, the report he had to give them there in Wales was one of ever-increasing success and usefulness. As a society, speaking in their name and for them, the Guild was year by year becoming a greater power for good. At the Home Office, before committees of the Houses of Parliament—both Lords and Commons—with great city and borough officials, the Guild was acknowledged and treated with respect.

Professor LLOYD proposed and Mr JACOB STUDT seconded a hearty vote of thanks to Mr Horne for coming amongst them year by year, and giving them so excellent an address. The motion was carried with great applause. In responding, the HON. CHAPLAIN expressed his readiness at all times to furtheir their interest, and concluded by moving votes of thanks to Messrs Dooner and Son for the use of their booth, and to Mr Henry Studt for his presidency of the meeting.

Both resolutions were carried with great acclammation. Mr R. DOONER and Mr H. STUDT having suitably replied, the secretaries pro tem (Messrs Slocombe and Richard Dooner) proceeded to enrol members.

The total amount, beating all previous records (even for Wales), was £27 9s. 6d., exclusive of Mr H. Scard's subscription acknowledged last week.

	£	s.	d.
Mr John Cottrell (second sub.) ..	5	0	0
Mr Jacob Studt (second sub.) ..	5	0	0
Mr John Studt (second sub.) ..	2	2	0
Messrs J. Dooner and Son.....	2	2	0
Mr Henry Studt..	1	1	0
Mr John North ..	1	1	0
Mr Wm. Hagger..	1	1	0
Mr John Fossett..	0	10	6
Mr Cullis	0	10	6

	£	s.	d.
Mr Kinder	0	10	6
Mr Winsper.....	0	10	6
Professor Lloyd ..	0	10	6
Mr Jas. Whayman	0	10	6
Mr E. Clarke	0	10	6
Plinston Bros.....	0	10	6
Mr W. North	0	10	6
Mr James Day....	0	10	6
Mr Odeby	0	10	0
Mr Jones	0	10	0
Mr W. Moore	0	7	6
And 14 subscribers at 5s. each	3	10	

A CHAT WITH GEORGE LURICH.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

Mr George Lurich, whose feats of strength and whose skilful wrestling have attracted so much attention, was born in Reval, in the Estland of Russia, and belongs to the Estnisch people, who form one of the Mongolian tribes. He is only twenty-seven years of age, and has already defeated all the recognised continental champion wrestlers.

Mr Lurich tells us that he started developing himself physically when he was sixteen years of age. If you look at his frame to-day, you will see that those eleven years have done wonders for him. There is not a muscle in his body he cannot move, and remarkable demonstration of this is given in his wonderful poses. After having studied and practised weight-lifting for a few years, he made his first public appearance in St. Petersburg, where his performances created nothing less than a sensation. It was at once recognised that as an athlete and a strong man he possessed extraordinary qualifications. It is very seldom that a good weight-lifter is an equally good wrestler, but Lurich can rightly claim to be both. He has succeeded in throwing all the best German wrestlers, and none of the remaining champions has accepted his challenge. He has met and defeated Georges Hackenschmidt and the German wrestler, Eberley, in Prague, Rigo, Berlin, and in other towns. Jacobus Koch, another German wrestler, he has defeated about ten times, while Petrof (of Bulgaria), Kara Mustapha (of Turkey), Pedersen, and other famous strong men have fallen before him. Mr Lurich informs us that he has challenged all the other champions. Lurich is an expert both in Russian wrestling and in the Græco-Roman style, and he gives a very varied exhibition of athletic and gymnastic feats. His Russian belt wrestling, which has never before been practised in this country, is a distinctive and interesting feature of his performance. It is worth mentioning that he won the world's championship in weight lifting at Rotterdam, while he took similar honours in wrestling at Hamburg and at Riga in 1902.

We witnessed Mr Lurich's performance at the Paragon the other evening, and were much struck with the skilfulness and the strength he displayed. Next week he is to be seen both at the Mile-end-road hall and at the Royal, Holborn. He has had offers from various managers at the same terms as those given to champion wrestlers, and wherever he has appeared return dates have been offered to him. This week, in spite of an accident to his knee, he has been attending to his work as usual, and, considering the character of his different feats of strength, he is deserving of the utmost congratulation for his pluck in standing before the footlights while suffering pain. Lurich lifts five men on his little

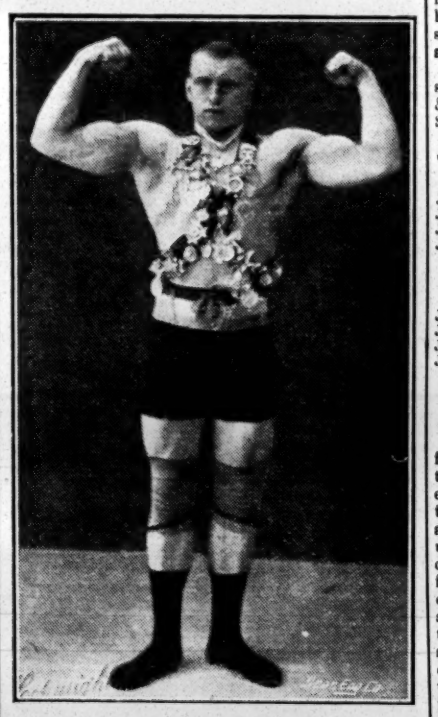


Photo by Marie Leon.

GEORGE LURICH.

finger, and carries them from the wings to the centre of the stage. But even more noteworthy is his manipulation of dumbbells weighing 450lb. All the local strong men of the East-end have tried during the week to raise this little load from the stage, but have failed to move it to the extent of a single inch. One of the most daring of Lurich's many feats is the raising of a weight of 290lb. above his head and dropping it on to his neck. He swings a similar weight around its body almost with the same ease that the ordinary man would swing his cane.

In the ordinary challenge which Mr Lurich publishes on the programmes of the music halls where he appears, we notice that he makes the somewhat generous offer of £100 to the athlete who can defeat him in the Græco-Roman style, without laying down any time limit. This offer, he points out, is open to anyone. Lurich is also prepared to give the sum of £100 to any man who can perform the same feats of strength as he himself goes through nightly. On Wednesday night last, Saxon, supposed to be one of our strongest men, took up the wrestling challenge, and after an exciting contest, which lasted for ten minutes, was finally defeated.

Lurich tells us that before coming to England he had heard a great deal about the alleged British dislike of Russians, but wherever he has appeared he has been received with the greatest kindness and sympathy. He has formed a very high opinion of English audiences, and considers that foreigners get better treatment here than in any other country.

"Your country people love fair-play," he says as he shakes hands, "and no matter to what nationality a man may belong, if he has anything in him at all, he stands a good chance over here."

AT the Bordesley Palace, Birmingham, this week an excellent programme is presented. Max Renard gives an exceptionally smart dog turn. That popular comedian Phil Herman has some good songs; Alma and Abdullah's electrical display, "The Devil in Paradise," is effective; a smart athletic act is presented by Lord, Murray, and Lord; Marie Collins is loudly encored; Masona, juggler; Heeley and Meeley, eccentric comedians; Harry Leybourne, comedian; Tom Moore, and the American Comedy Four are well received.

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

SOFT VELVETY SKIN.—Beetham's "LAROLA" preserves the Skin and Complexion from the effects of the sun, wind, and hard water. Removes and prevents all roughness, redness, irritation, tan, &c., and KEEPS the SKIN SOFT, SMOOTH, and WHITE at all Seasons. DELIGHTFULLY COOLING and REFRESHING after cycling, tennis, motoring, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully Soothing if applied after Shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores, or, Post-free from the Makers, M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[ADVT.]

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Treorchy Fair is the centre of the excellent Rhondda Valley series of fairs under the direction and management of the Brothers Studt. The large fair field at Treorchy was occupied by the splendid machines and other novelties of Messrs H. Studt and Son, John Studt and Jacob Studt, J. Dooner and Son's capital show, the Cinématograph theatre (with local films, war pictures, and events of the day); Haggar's bioscope and varieties gave, as usual, excellent entertainment; Jacob Studt with his new show, the electrograph, was up to date in showing pictorial representation of the world day by day; the Cottrell Family, swimmers, in their tank demonstration; Professor Lloyd with his giant lady and other exhibits; Professor Ruby, from Paris, with the optical illusion, "La Morte;" Stockwell, with up-to-date peep-show; and "Bushman," with trained animals and birds, were the novelty booths; and H. Cullis, with athletes, boxers, and wrestlers formed the show list. In addition to the machines of the Messrs Studt, the Brothers Plinston had their big wheel on the ground. The other novelties, shooting saloons, varieties, stalls, &c., were by Messrs North, Kinder, Clarko, Odeby, Jones, Whayman, Winsper, Greatorex, Lewis, Phillips, Chadwick, Fossett, Healy, Moore, Waller, Unwin, W. North, E. North, Jarvis, Richards, Freeman, James, Day, and others.

This year, on the Lion Inn field, were Wadbrook's superb show, the Electrograph (H. Scard, proprietor), E. Danter's steam roundabouts and other novelties, Jervis's bikes, Wright's varieties, and a goodly array of stalls, varieties, &c.

At Swalwell Hoppings are Walter Murphy's royal gondolas, a superb machine; Walker Hoadley's four-a-breast and Alf Payne's three-a-breast gallopers, Wingate's cycle track, Moore's boxers, Collena's freak show, Pott's rifle range, Chapman's gallery, and smaller concerns of Messrs Toogoods Walker, Campbell, Hughes, and Cooper.

Treorchy New Fair was opened by Messrs Wadbrooke with their new electrograph, and a good show of varieties are also much appreciated. Messrs Danter's new machines and Wright's various amusements all did good business.

In Cardiff Madame D'Arc's waxworks, with several new features, still maintain their popularity. Stoll's Panopticon, where roller skating, magic maze and mirrors, and Bioscope may be seen, attracts many visitors.

At Bidford Fair were Mr Thomas Clarke's grand circular switchback railway, park swings, shooting saloons, &c.; Wilson's African jungle, Kemp's bazaars, and numerous other attractions, by Messrs Taylor, Seaton, Herbert, Smith, Hawkes, Mallam, Prean, Butler, Stanley, Tyler, Phipps.

At Broadway Wakes were Clarke's switchback railway, Ayer's steam ostriches, Curtis's steam horses, Kemp's bazaar and shooting saloons, and swing boats, &c., by Messrs Clarke, Ayers, Hatwell, and Seaton.

At Snowshill Wake were Mr Albert Curtis's steam roundabouts, swing boats, bottle shooters, &c.; Hatwell's shooting saloons, and Butler and Stanley's cokernut sheets.

At Berwick-on-Tweed Fair Messrs W. B. Murphy were present with their No 2 gondolas.

PLEASURE FAIRS FOR JUNE.

June 16 Kidderminster	June 24. Willersey Wake Gloucestershire
June 23. Shipston-on-Stour	
June 24 Bromsgrove	June 27. Feckenham
June 26. Pershore (all Worcestershire)	June 27. Inkberrow
	June 27. Droitwich (all Worcestershire)

HORSE FAIRS.

June 23. Shipston-on-Stour	July 30-Aug. 31. Redditch Fair, Worcestershire
June 24. Bromsgrove	
June 26 Pershore	
July 9-12. Headless Cross Great Cherry Wake, Headless Cross, Worcestershire	Aug. 1. Evesham
	Aug. 1. Malvern

A terrible story of a fight with pythons comes from the Zoological Gardens at New York, where the snakes are lively at the present time, having emerged from winter torpor with the arrival of the warm weather. The veterinary surgeon accordingly prescribed spring medicine, and three men, one armed with a long syringe containing a dozen doses, entered the cage where eleven pythons, from 8ft. to 12ft. long, are kept. It was the duty of one man to catch a python by the neck, of another to open its mouth with a stick, while the third injected the medicine. By the time three snakes had been doctored the others became greatly excited, and one big twelve-footer slid down the trunk of a tree and repeatedly struck at the invaders. Finally there was a battle royal, a bewildering melée of men and snakes resulting in one man's thumb being bitten to the bone and another's leg being almost broken. Before the reptile was properly dosed and placed securely in a sack the combined efforts of three experienced keepers had almost failed to beat off the rebellious python, which tried to get its fangs into all three and to encircle them with its huge sinuous body. The remaining snakes were easily captured and doctored.

A letter dated April 31, from the show ground at East London, South Africa, states that Bostock and Wombwell's Circus and Menagerie are still showing to crowded houses. Two lions, two pumas, and a couple of leopards have died, the total loss amounting to about £1,000.

At Birmingham on Sunday last, May 29, a meeting of showmen and stallowners was held under the auspices of the Market and Fair Travellers' Association, in Mr Crighton's cinématograph show. There was a good attendance, to whom the secretary, Mr A. R. Burns, explained, in detail, the aims and objects of the Association, which were listened to with keen interest. At the close of the meeting about twenty names were handed in by travellers to become members.

Amongst the Whitsuntide fairs in the Midlands we have news of Birmingham and Bidford-on-Avon. At Birmingham the shows included the Cinématograph exhibitions of Messrs. Crighton and Hayes, the fine arts of Messrs. Cordwell, Storey and Wright, and Holloway's ghost show. Messrs P. Collins, Limited, were responsible for the bulk of the riding machines, and Messrs. Russell, Wootton, and Hayes had swings and steam-horses on the ground. The shooters, cokers, &c., were those of Wright, Dobson, Hayes, Wootton, Marsden, Court, Scarfe, Parr, Caddick, and many others.

At Bidford-on-Avon the fun of the fair was entirely provided by the riding machines, shooting galleries, and smaller fry, no exhibitions being on the ground. Mr Thos. Clarke had sets of switchbacks and highfliers, and the remaining novelties were those of Wilson, Taylor, Seaton, Clarke, Stanley, Butler, Mallam, Herbert Phipps, Tyler, Smith, Hawkes, Newman, and others.

From further north comes news of Barrow-in-Furness, where the exhibitions were Monte Bros.' Cinématograph, J. Manders's waxwork and Cinémato, J. Cooper's and G. Green's animated pictures, Haydn's mystic exhibition, and North's giant lady. Wm. Murphy's gondolas, Geo. Green's horses and ostriches, Green's, Hamilton's, and Richardson Bros.' gallopers, and Casey's swings made a brave show of riding machines, and were accompanied by the usual crowd of rifle saloons, roll-up boards, &c.

The Whitsun week fairs at Kendal, Ulverstone, and Dalton-in-Furness were provided by practically the same caterers as above-mentioned for Barrow-in-Furness.

At Skipton, the riding machines were those of J. Crampton, Burgess, J. Shuttleworth, and Wm. Scott, accompanied by a crowd of small attractions.

At Castleford, Yorks, the shows were Hodgkiss's circus, Testo's Cinématograph, Farrar's optical illusion, Kelso's Empire Theatre, J. W. Wadding

ton's animated pictures, Ingram's dogs and monkeys, and the Birch midget show. Messrs Waddington, G. Marshall, T. Harries, Lieske, Morley, and Williams provided the roundabouts, swings, and big wheels.

South Wales has been a busy locality for showmen this Whitsuntide. The important fixture of Treorky always draws a record crowd. Amongst those we recognised on the ground on Monday, May 30, were Jacob Studt's new bio-electro scenoscope, Dooner's everyday living pictures, Haggar and Son's South Wales Cinématograph of passing events, Professor Cullis's assault-at-arms, Professor and Miss Cottrell's exhibition of ornamental swimming in the crystal tank, Stockton's fine arts, Wortley's beauty show, Lloyd's freaks of nature and fire-eater, Ruby's mystery, Sol Reader's menagerie, Sedgemore's working colliers, and Phillips's "Darkest Cardiff." The machines included the excellent and popular sets of the Messrs Studt, John Studt's zoological gallopers, gondolas, and electro cycles, Henry Studt and Jacob Studt's gondolas, Plymston's big wheel, Oddley's juvenile horses, Lloyd's Royal hunters, Jones's roley-poley, and the strikers of W. North, Day, and Unwin. The varied crowd of stalls, &c., included Davies's bazaars, Shufflebottom's Staffordshire pots, William's earthenware, Fossett's and Matthews' mug copping tents, &c. The cokers of J. North, Kinder, J. Day, Oddley, Winsper, and Jones; shooters of J. Dooner, Roberts, Whyman, Clarke, Moore, Fossett, and Lloyds; and Mollies of Kinder, Sheen, North, Day, and others completed the fair ground crowd.

On Tuesday, May 31, an impressive funeral took place at Porth, Rhondda Valley, when the mortal remains of Richard Jones, aged eighty-nine, were conveyed to their last resting-place. Deceased belonged to the old school of fair travellers, and was probably the oldest showman in the kingdom. The funeral was conducted by Mr J. Williams, of Porth, and the service taken by the Vicar of Ynishir. The cortège consisted of four mourning coaches and the hearse. Beautiful wreaths and floral tributes were sent from many old friends. Amongst those present were Mr H. Studt, Mr and Mrs Jacob Studt, Mr and Mrs J. Fossett, Mr Jas. Chipperfield and son, Mr W. Danter, Mrs Nail, Mrs Gardiner, Mrs Butler, Mr E. Clark, Professor Lloyd, Mrs Sheen, Mrs Roberts, Messrs Walters, Mr Slocombe, Mrs Jones, Mrs Moore, and a large number of townspeople. All old travellers are requested to accept this intimation, as it is impossible to communicate directly with all friends.

At Cleator Moor we had Mr John Wilmot's Venetian realisations, Emerson and Hazard's three-abreast gallopers, Messrs Caris and Fox's switchback, and Billy Newey's juvenile horses. The shows included Mr Wm. Sedgwick's Yankee menagerie, Relph and Pedley's Cinématograph exhibition, Sahib Leo's Egyptian Hall, Chipperfield's French menagerie, Johnson's circus of varieties, Harris's living pictures, John Chambers' armless carpenter, and Henry Chapman's feathered artists. Confetti, teasers, toy stalls, dollies, sheets, and other minor fun of the fair were provided by Messrs W. Strand, Irvin, Broughton, Searson, Slater, Kelso, and Cooper. Messrs Thomas Relph and William Pedley's new American enterprise has played to tremendous business during the Cumberland run.

Buffalo Bill's "Wild West" made its pitch at Penzance in the Recreation Grounds on Monday, and drew over 25,000 spectators for the afternoon and evening performances. The afternoon show was favoured with splendid weather, but the evening's entertainment was considerably marred by the prevalence of high wind and heavy showers. Undoubtedly, no such enormous crowds of people from all parts of the district have ever before assembled in this town. The side shows, exhibiting freaks, novelties, and varieties of all descriptions were also liberally patronised. The discipline, system, and whole perfect working organisation of colossal "Wild West" show was the general subject of admiring comment.

Corpus Christi Fair is in full swing at Penzance, and as this is the largest, the best organised, and most popular holiday attraction in the West, it is drawing large crowds of visitors daily. Chief among the attractions this year are Messrs W. S. and C. Hancock's steam electric-lit roundabouts, gondolas, and switchback railways, Cinématograph show, and menagerie exhibition. Another first-class show is Anderton and Rowlands' handsome Empire of Varieties, Bioscope, and menagerie, Brewer's mechanical steam gallopers, swing boats, and shooting galleries, and a number of minor shows all tend to add to the general gaiety, glitter, and enjoyment.

This week, at Mr J. Orton Hayes's People's Theatre at the Carmarthen Pleasure Fairground, there has been placed upon the boards with much success *The Colleen Bawn*, *The Maid of Cefn Ydfa*, and *The Green Hills of the Far West* The theatre continues to be well patronised, and the respective plays are most creditably interpreted, being received with much acceptance by large audiences. Turns are given each evening by Mr Ryder Davis, vocalist and comedian, and Miss Eva Ward, burlesque artist, and their efforts are greatly enjoyed.

At the World's Fair, Dublin, the proprietor, Mr C. A. James, is presenting the following:—J. H. Fernley, facial artiste; Harry Sullivan, comedian; Sulli and Saroni, duettists; Laura Kemp, ballad vocalist; and Billy Hayden's Blondin monkeys.

Saltcoats Fair opened on May 26, and lasted until the following Tuesday. The ground was, as usual, let to Mr John Wilmot, who had two of his galloping horse machines on it, as well as a small one for juveniles of tender years. Among the other attractions were M'Indoe's (Arthur Henderson) splendid Cinématographic entertainment, Paulo's Circus, the Boswell Family with three fortune-telling tents, and the usual shooting galleries, coker shies, roll-ups, and billiard tables.

In the course of the band contest at the May Queen Festival at Earlstown, a fire broke out in Cardwell's electric lifeograph, and in less than ten minutes the show was cleared of its linings, tilt curtains, and hangings, and about £30 worth of pictures. Damage is estimated at £150. The show was uninsured.

INFORMATION relating to Shows and Fairs, suitable for this column, should be addressed to THE EDITOR, "The Showman World."

AT the Hippodrome, Birmingham, this week Marck's lions are proving an attraction. Morcashani, La Belle Creole, renders her selections with effect; Howard and Colinson; Lall Cliffe, comedian; and the Three Laurels entertain in their usual happy way; the Harmony Four are responsible for some excellent glees; Mdlle. Lillian is an expert trick cyclist; and the Pichel Troupe of acrobats are exceedingly smart.

THE MUSICAL PALMERS AND MISS DAISY PALMER return to town to-morrow, after a most successful tour of eleven weeks, concluding to-night at the City Varieties, Leeds.—Sam Shipley and Beatie Worth have been secured by Mr Broadhead for three years, six weeks each year.—Mr Fred Sinclair and Miss Gracie Whiteford have scored very heavily with their smart musical sketch, and are now booked into 1907.—In future the Imperial Comedy Quartette will be known as the Royal Comedy Four, and they have been specially engaged for a tour with Messrs Poole's Myriorama.

MISS LUCY CLARKE, the famous contralto, now appearing at the Shepherds Bush Empire, sails for America in September next, for a tour of forty weeks, in the course of which she will visit San Francisco and Los Angeles.

CRICKET.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND C.C. v. BRISTOL EARLY CLOSERS C.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, Wednesday, May 25. Scores:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band C.C.—A. Hamlin, b Hedges, 4; J. Lewis, b Hedges, 9; H. Hare b Hedges, 0; H. Belding (captain), b Hedges, 18; L. Hamlin, run out, 1; E. Belding, b Hedges, 3; S. Carter, b Coombs, 15; H. Edwards, b Hedges, 0; E. Bowman, b Hedges, 0; A. E. Bailey, not out, 5; W. J. Horton, b Hedges, 2. Extras, 8; total, 65.

Bristol Early Closers C.C.—H. Turner, b Belding, 0; T. Burgess, c Hamlin, b Belding, 0; T. Willis, b Belding, 7; S. Coombes, l b w, b Hare, 3; G. Hedges (captain), b Belding, 42; A. Rossiter, b Belding, 14; B. Yandell, not out, 26; extras, 11; total, for six wickets, 103. W. Vowles, T. Perry, W. Denty, and T. Brooks did not bat.

THESPIDS C.C. v. GUY'S HOSPITAL C.C.

Played at Acton on Friday, May 27. Scores:—

Thespids.—H. Mills, b Russell, 0; S. Mills, b Russell, 14; D. V. Hassard, b Russell, 3; Reeve Denbigh, c Taylor, b Townrow, 27; B. Egerton, b Strange, 11; Conway Tearle, c Norton, b Moyle, 2; H. Nye Chart, not out, 31; C. La Trobe, b Strange, 0; F. Stayton, c and b Bartlett, 7; P. Darwen, b Bartlett, 4; F. Lister, b Bartlett, 0; extras, 8; total, 107.

Guy's Hospital.—E. W. Strange, b Denbigh, 0; E. Whelon, c Hassard, b Denbigh, 19; E. L. Norton, c Egerton, b Denbigh, 10; H. G. Gilson, b Denbigh, 15; T. L. Atkinson, c La Trobe, b Tearle, 1; H. H. Moyle, b Tearle, 0; A. D. Vernon Taylor, b Egerton, 2; V. Townrow, b Egerton, 2; H. Hughes, c Tearle, b Hassard, 4; G. N. Bartlett, not out, 1; G. Russell, b Hassard, 0; extras, 6; total, 66. Denbigh took four wickets for 37 runs; Tearle, two for 11; Egerton, two for 5; and Hassard, two for 3.

MISS LILLIE BELDING'S LADIES TEAM v. COTHAM AND REDLAND LADIES ATHLETIC CLUB.

Played near Clifton Downs on May 28. Scores:—

Miss Lillie Belding's Ladies Team.—Miss N. Bailey, b Miss Bradley, 4; Miss T. Maynard, b Miss Bradley, 0; Miss B. Godfrey, b Miss W. Bradley, 7; Miss E. Francis, b Miss Bradley, 1; Miss M. Stuart, b Miss Fisher, 0; Miss L. Belding (captain), b Miss Bradley, 2; Miss I. Bowman, b Miss Bradley, 14; Miss L. Clayton, b Miss Fisher, 0; Miss E. Bowman, run out, 3; Miss L. Carter, b Miss Bradley, 0; Miss G. Thomas, b Miss Bradley, 1; total, 32.

Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club.—Miss A. Gibbs, run out, 1; Miss A. Mitchell, b Miss Belding, 6; Miss L. Norris, c Miss I. Bowman, b Miss Belding, 1; Miss M. Hamilton, b Miss Belding, 0; Miss Miss F. Hooper, b Miss Fowler, 1; Miss L. Coles, b Miss Fowler, 4; Miss M. Fisher, run out, 2; Miss K. Montgomery (captain), b Miss Belding, 21; Miss M. Burgess, b Miss Fowler, 3; Miss N. Lawrence, b Miss Fowler, 0; Miss E. Lawrence, b Miss Belding, 5; total 44.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. C.C. v. MUSIC HALLS C.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, May 28. Scores:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. C.C.—H. Hare (captain), run out, 3; W. Miller, b O'Connor, 7; T. Smith, b O'Connor, 0; J. Aubrey, b Nicholls, 15; A. Cox, c and b Nicholls, 1; H. Clements, b Nicholls, 0; J. Lewis, b O'Connor, 8; H. Belding, b O'Connor, 13; T. Palmer, b Nicholls, 3; E. Belding, b Nicholls, 21; L. Clayton, not out, 0; extras, 11; total, 82.

Music Halls C.C.—T. Denton, b H. Belding, 1; J. Stewart (captain), b H. Belding, 0; F. Hansford, b Hare, 3; F. Arni, b H. Belding, 0; T. Neagle, b H. Belding, 9; F. B. Nicholls, c J. Lewis, b H. Belding, 16; W. Hinder, b Hare, 1; H. C. Douglas, run out, 1; W. Meadows, c and b H. Belding, 3; D. O'Connor, b H. Belding, 25; P. Reardon, not out, 5; extras, 7; total, 71.

A WAGNER TEXT-BOOK.

"Parsifal, Lohengrin, and the Legend of the Holy Grail" is the title of a useful little commentary on those works, which are described and interpreted in accordance with Wagner's own writings by Alice Leighton and Basil Crump, authors of "*The Ring of the Nibelungen*." Two considerations, the authors tell us, have guided them in selecting *Lohengrin* and *Parsifal* to follow *The Ring*. The first is their common basis in the legend of the Holy Grail, the second that, as Wagner points out, the quest of the Grail succeeds the struggle for the hoard of the Nibelungs. In poetical imagery and musical workmanship *Lohengrin*—completed in 1847—and *Parsifal*—the closing work of Wagner's life, finished about three years before his death—naturally differ considerably, but in essential features they are closely akin. Wagner's prose writings throw much light on the inner meaning of his works, which are in truth dramas symbolical of some great truth; and the authors embody in their work many of the poet's own explanations, which have hitherto lain hidden in the voluminous mass of his essays and correspondence. The student and the lover of Wagner—often one and the same thing—are warned against a "too exclusive study of the music, to the neglect of the poem," which is apt to lead to confusion and misunderstanding. Wagner himself went so far as to say, in reference to an early performance of *Lohengrin*:—"While listening to a good—that is, rational—opera, people should, so to speak, not think of the music at all, but only feel it in an unconscious manner, while their fullest sympathy should be wholly occupied by the action represented." In an extract from a letter to his friend Villot, the poet-musician says:—"The whole interest of *Lohengrin* consists in an inner working within the heart of Elsa, who feels herself united in some mysterious way to the powerful unknown Knight of the Grail. The endurance of a spell of wondrous power for blessing fills her whole surrounding with the most persuasive sense of truth.

"To Elsa the inner vision of her champion is more real than all the outward menace of her enemies. So implicitly does she believe in his promise of help that she consents without hesitation to accept the ordeal. Frederick, equally reliant on Ortrud and his own prowess, declares himself also ready. The trumpeters sound the challenge, and the appeal goes forth to the four corners of the earth. There is no reply, and Elsa begs of the King another summons, because her champion was 'too far away to hear the first.' Once more a heavy silence follows, and Elsa falls on her knees in prayer. Those near the river now cry out in wonder at the approach of a boat drawn by a swan with a chain of gold about its neck. In it stands a noble knight in dazzling silver armour, leaning on his sword, and with a golden horn at his belt, just as Elsa had described him in her dream." Surely a fit subject to inspire such a gifted poet and musician. No wonder that the opera has become so intensely popular with the masses.

The sacred character of *Parsifal* puts it into the category of oratorio in this country, and the authors admit the reasonableness of the view that such matters are not fitted for dramatic treatment. They add that "the touching and beautiful work of the Bavarian peasants at Oberammergau and the revival at several London theatres of the old mortality play *Everyman*—which created such a profound impression—prove, however, what a power the stage has been, and may yet be again, in the inculcation of religious truth and simple faith. The following extract summarises the origin, purpose, and plan of *Parsifal*:—

"The sacred festival-drama of *Parsifal* is a blend of two earlier sketches, *Die Sieger* and *Jesus of Nazareth*. In 1843 Wagner had written *The Love Feast of the Apostles* for a church festival. This was performed with a hidden orchestra and also hidden choirs, as in the Temple Scene in *Parsifal*. Then in 1848 he sketched, in full detail, a drama called *Jesus of Nazareth*; and eight years later made a short sketch for a Buddhist drama, to which he gave the name *The Victors (Die Sieger)*, in which the Buddha and the main ideas of his teaching were introduced; those to which Wagner gives special prominence being Sympathy with all that lives and breathes and Rebirth (or reincarnation, as it is often called) But as both these sketches dealt with historical figures (Jesus and Buddha), he laid them aside in favour of the purely mythical works of the *Ring* and *Tristan*. Then, later, he blended the characteristics of those two historical teachers in the mythical figure of *Parsifal*, making him the hero of a mystery play in which the essential elements of the great religions of the eastern and western worlds—Christianity and Buddhism—are blended in a form especially adapted to the western world of to-day.

"The outlines of the story will be familiar to all students of the legends connected with the Holy Grail. In Wagner's hands it becomes, in a wonderfully concentrated form, the drama of the world's sin and pain, its cause and cure. Following the 'Parzival' of Wolfram von Eschenbach, Wagner has, in his *Parsifal*, placed the Grail Castle on the northern slope of the mountains of Gothic Spain, while on the southern side, in Moorish Spain, is the Castle of Perdition raised by the Magician Klingsor to lure the Grail Knights to destruction. These Knights dwell in the Castle as chosen guardians of the Grail, united in the sacred bonds of Brotherly Love, and pledged to carry Relief and Truth to their fellow creatures.

"The character of the hero is that of a stainless, simple youth, who passes unscathed through all temptation, and learns the cause of the world's pain through sympathy, or compassion, which is the highest aspect of the Will. It then becomes the power to redeem, and its weapon is the sacred Lance, which should never be separated from the Grail: for Will needs Wisdom to control and guide it."

THEIR Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, her Royal Highness Princess Christian, and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein were present at the performance of *La Bohème* at the Royal Opera, Covent-garden, on Saturday last.—Princess Henry of Battenberg, Princess Victoria Eugenie of Battenberg, and suite were present at the performance of *Le Nozze di Figaro* at the Royal Opera, Covent-garden, on the 27th ult.

A PLEASANT gathering took place on the stage of the Grand Theatre, Plymouth, after the evening performance on the 27th ult., when Mr J. W. Cragg, proprietor of the *Laughter Land* company, invited his company to a supper to celebrate the anniversary of his birthday. Messrs C. F. and Percy Williams, of the Grand Theatre, also joined in the festivities. Mr Rousby, on behalf of the company, presented Mr Cragg with a very handsome writing-case, travelling flask, and a fountain pen. The usual toasts were then drunk, followed by an excellent musical entertainment.

FITZGERALD'S CIRCUS has a sensation in the shape of a company of Japanese athletes chosen by the Osaka Guild. The quaint introductory ceremonial before the wrestling commences is most interesting. Mr Dan Fitzgerald manages a company of Hungarian stallions with signal success, and Herr Jappe introduces a performing elephant and pony.

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—In your Music Hall Gossip last week you mentioned Mr Ernest Rees singing "On a cold and frosty morning." The song mentioned is my latest, and is now in the hands of the publishers. Yours faithfully, ERNIE MAYNE, Palace, Halifax, May 31.

THE GREAT CAICEDO

AT THE

LONDON HIPPODROME.

DARING

SENSATIONAL

FEARLESS

A PERFECT MASTER

OF THE

LAWS OF GRAVITY

ENORMOUS SUCCESS.

THE LONDON PRESS LOUD IN ITS PRAISE

OF THE

KING OF THE WIRE.

PRESS OPINIONS.

THE HIPPODROME.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, May 31, 1904.

Señor Juan A. Caicedo, who not merely turns somersaults on the tight-rope in traditional Blondinesque dress, but encumbers himself with top-boots and spurs to add difficulty and sensation to his feats.

STANDARD, May 31, 1904.

Juan A. Caicedo, the champion high wire-walker, gives a display which is little short of marvellous. He appears to be able to do anything on his wire, and to be almost as much at home as on *terra firma*. He turns somersaults with and without a balancing-pole, and finally does a backward fling while wearing top-boots and spurs.

GLOBE, May 31, 1004.

Among the other attractions is the renowned Caicedo, who not only walks on the wire at the height of thirty feet, but turns somersaults in the air attired as a Spanish grandee, with top boots and spurs.

PRESS OPINIONS.

PRESS OPINIONS.

THE HIPPODROME.

MORNING ADVERTISER, May 31, 1904

Juan Caicedo, the high wire-walker, was one of the novelties introduced by the management last night, and for daring and sensation he ranks with anything in the same category yet seen at the Hippodrome. The performer treads a wire at a height of 30ft. from the arena, and, attired as a Spanish grandee with top-boots and spurs, he turns somersaults. The feat is one of remarkable daring and skill.

MORNING POST, May 31, 1904.

There are three other new "turns" at the Hippodrome. Señor Juan A. Caicedo provides one. He performs on the high wire, but instead of walking on it he leaps and bounds thereon, even when wearing top-boots and spurs, after the manner, no doubt, of South American hidalgos. He claims to have been complimented by several Royal persons, and one can well believe it.

PRESS OPINIONS.

A FEW VACANT DATES AFTER JULY 25.

Address, CAICEDO, Care of "THE ERA" OFFICES, WELLINGTON-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

AUSTRALIA.— MELBOURNE, SYDNEY.

Mr J. C. WILLIAMSON,
Manager of the Leading Australian Theatres.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, SYDNEY
THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY.

London Representative, Mr J. A. E. MALONE, Daly's T.

AUSTRALIA.— Mr HARRY RICKARDS'S AUSTRALIAN ENTERPRISES:—
NEW TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
NEW TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
NEW GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
NEW PRINCE OF WALES'S HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
THEATRE ROYAL, BRISBANE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
THEATRE ROYAL, PERTH.

Mr Rickards is always open to Engage First-class Artists for the above-named Theatres.
Address to the Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney.
Cable address, "Tivolian, Sydney."

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LEONARD RAYNE,
Sole Lessee,
GAIETY THEATRE, JOHANNESBURG;
Sub-Lessee,
STANDARD THEATRE, JOHANNESBURG;
Sub-Lessee,
OPERA HOUSE, CAPE TOWN.

Companies can be supplied with
Scenic Artists,
Carpenters,
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Scenery,
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Business-Manager,
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Will Reopen at Christmas, 1904-5, with Pantomime.
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High-class Attractions do immense business here.
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A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
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THE PUBLIC HALL. Three Minutes from Station.
Seating accommodation provided for 400 (400 extra Seats by arrangement). Permanent Stage. Dressing-rooms. Terms, per night, inclusive of Heating and Lighting, 2½ Guineas. Special terms for the week.
All communications to the Manager, J. D. ROLLS, Kinnoull, Warlingham, Surrey.

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After the necessary alterations and redecorations have been carried out, Mr Macdona intends to run the above property on recognised Theatre lines, and invites applications for Dates from First-class Managements only. Good Dates for Good Companies. The Season is from July to September. Apply, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W. Wire, "Cockeyed, London." Telephone, 6,920 Gerrard.

COATBRIDGE, N.B., THEATRE ROYAL. Proprietress, Mrs M. WATSON;
Manager, Mr C. B. FOUNTAINE.

The above Theatre is now undergoing very extensive alterations, and when finished will be one of the finest Theatres in the Scotch Provinces.
The Decorating and Upholstery are being carried out by Messrs A. B. Dean and Sons, Birmingham.
The Theatre will compriee Gallery, 6d.; Pit, 9d.,; Pit Stalls, 1s.; Balcony, 1s. 6d.; Dress Circle, 2s.; Boxes, 15s and £1 1s.
The Pit Stalls and Balcony will be Upholstered in Crimson Plush, the Dress Circle in Old Gold Plush.
Lighted throughout with Electric Light.
Everything Up to Date.
Will be reopened about Aug. 15 or 22.
First-class Attraction Required for Opening Date.
First-class Attractions Required for 1905.

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Vacant Dates Aug. 8, 15, 29, Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 24 and onwards.
Resident Acting-Manager, Mr F. GRAHAM MACDONA.

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Business extraordinary for week after Holidays.
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Entire new staff in front of curtain and behind.
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Next week, "First-class."
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The Largest and Most Popular Theatre of any Seaside Resort. Enormous success of the extensive alterations.
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Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. WHITEHEAD.
Through obliging Manager, Vacant July 25th.
Address, Mr J. W. WHITEHEAD.

Silence in all cases a respectful negative.

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Managers of No. 1 Attractions
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Now Booking Autumn, 1904, and Spring, 1905.

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The New Wing, erected at a cost of £6,000, with magnificent Bars, Lounges, and Retiring Rooms, now open. The most spacious and luxuriously furnished Theatre in the City.
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Holding Capacity, over £200.
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Silence a polite negative

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Open throughout the Year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

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Rehearsal at 2·0 o'clock.
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Mr Jay invites applications for Dates from
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Telephone, No. 6,534 Gerrard.

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Visited by all the Leading Attractions.
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Bookings include all the Best Attractions.
Required, First-class Companies for
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also Easter and Whit Week, 1905.
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Will hold at ordinary Prices £120.
Bookings include "Amorelle," "The Earl and the Girl," "The Never-Never Land," "The Girl from Kay's," "Florodora," Miss Fortescue, "Duchess of Dantzic," "The Orchid," "Message from Mars," "My Lady Molly," "A Chinese Honeymoon," "Three Little Maids," Van Biene, J. W. Turner, "A Country Girl," D'Oyly Carte, &c.
Vacant Aug. 22, Oct. 10, 17, Nov. 14.
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General Manager, PERCIVAL CRAIG.
Only Vacant Dates.
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Aug. 8, Aug. 15, Sept. 5, Dec. 5.
ROYAL.
Aug. 1, Dec. 12, 19.
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A Popular and Prosperous Theatre.
Electric Light throughout. Leading Companies only.
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New Stock Scenery, Proscenium (Opening 20ft. by 16ft.), Act-drop for Sale, by Private Treaty.
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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904 "The Era" Annual, 1904, reappears with all the features that to metropolitan and provincial playgoers make it invaluable as a work of reference. It again contains a list of new plays and important revivals at the London and suburban theatres, with dates of production to the end of November; new plays submitted in the provinces; the theatrical, musical, and equestrian obituary for the year; and other stage matters concerning which information is often desired. Each branch is excellently classified. What may, for convenience sake, be termed the "useful" portions of the "Annual" are sandwiched by forty short stories by popular actors and entertainers, the interest of these contributions being increased by autographs and portraits.—Daily Chronicle, Jan. 16th, 1904.

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June 27, Sept. 19, Oct. 3, Nov. 14, Jan. 16, 30.
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Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 24, on.
(Musical Companies preferred.)
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 31,
Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12.
CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
Vacant, July 25, Dec 19, 26, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 31,
Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 5, 12, and Christmas.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Vacant June 27, Sept. 19 26,
Oct. 10, 31 (Race Week), on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

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WANTED, Important Attractions, for
STANDARD THEATRE,
June 27, July 4, 25.
TERRISS THEATRE,
June 20, July 4 and 18.
METROPOLE THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Aug. 22, 29, and Sept. 26.
Address, WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
June 27 Vacant;
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL,
June 20 Vacant.
Wire, BACON, Gateshead.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
Vacant Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
Extensive Alterations are now being made.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Vacant Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Extensive Alterations have been made to this Theatre.
Vacant Aug. 18 (Cricket Week), Aug. 25, Sept. 8 (Three Nights only), onwards, with exceptions.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

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Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. PAYNE SEDDON.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Oct. 10, 24, and Jan. 2.
Return Fare, First Class and Saloon, from Glasgow, 17s. 6d.
Return from Liverpool, 16s.
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W. PAYNE SEDDON,
Coombe Cottage, Holford, Bridgwater, Somerset.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK
(the Scottish Aldershot).
Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. PAYNE SEDDON.
WANTED, Companies, Sept. 5, 26, and onwards. Last Three Days of each Week only.
10,000 Regulars and Volunteers will be stationed near Hawick during August and September.
Dumfries can be Booked in conjunction First Three Days.
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Coombe Cottage, Holford, Bridgwater, Somerset.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, HARROGATE.
WANTED, a First-class Pantomime
Production for Christmas, 1904.
Apply,
WILLIAM PEACOCK.

WANTED, Companies, Boro', North Shields (only Theatre open in the Town), July 11;
also Blyth, June 20.
ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Ayton House, North Shields

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE,
WOLVERHAMPTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions
for the Following Dates,
June 13 (?), 27 (?), July 4 (?), Aug. 8, 15, 22,
Sept. 19, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21, Dec. 5.
Only Vacant Dates this year.
Address,
FRED J. LITTLE, 11, Peter-street, Blackpool.

Vacant, Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday), Gaiety Theatre, Dublin; Aug. 22, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield; Sept. 12, Theatre Royal, Manchester.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Apply, JOHN HART, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough,
Good Companies, June 6, 13, August, on.
A. D. VERNON.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Musical Preferred,
June 11, 12, 13, Three Nights; 21, 22, 23, Three Nights.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
June 13, Ealing;
June 20, Plymouth.
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Crownhill, Devon.

POOLE'S THEATRES, GLO'STER and SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, the Best Companies Only for the Theatre Royal, Gloucester, now One of the Prettiest, Cleanest, and smartest Theatres in the Empire. Electric Trams from all Parts. The Only Theatre in the City.
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Opera House, Treherbert. Top of the Valley. Another fine Theatre, where everything before, behind, and outside is done well. Extensive building now going on directly opposite. The pits sunk, the coal found. Directly they start the Population doubles. Now good, then excellent.
Town Hall Theatre, Maesteg. Another coming Eldorado. More pits sunk, fine coal found. Hotels, business establishments, and streets rebuilt.
"The Christian" took at Maesteg, in three nights, in an off pay, £118, and in three nights at Treherbert, £130, and we mean to double these receipts. Only a few Autumn and Spring Dates left. Every inquiry solicited.
Theatre Royal, Pontypool, at present to Let on Share or Rental. Apply, for all Theatres,
C. W. POOLE, Wotton Lawn, Gloucester.

THEATRE ROYAL, GOOLE.
WANTED, Good Musical Plays, Comedies, or First-class Dramas, Aug 1, and onwards, with exceptions. Address, JOHN E. TOMLINSON.

WANTED, First-class Musical Attraction,
Sept. 19 26, Oct 31, and Nov. 28. Sole Owner-Manager, T. EDWARDES, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, July 4, for the Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness, to Oblige Mr T. Morton Powell. Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for June 20, 27, July 11, and Intermediates on. E. B. GOULDEN.

COMPANIES WANTED

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
Vacant, June 13, July 25, Sept. 26, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, 19.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
Vacant, June 13, 20, July 4, 18, 25, Aug. 22, onward.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant, July 11, Aug. 1, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, 12, 19, onward.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant, Aug. 15, Dec. 19, March 6, onward.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant, July 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Vacant, June 13, 20, 27, July 25, Nov. 21, Dec. 19, 26.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
Vacant, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 31, Nov. 14, 21, 28. Dec. 5, 12.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant, June 13, 20, July 4, 11, 18, 25, Sept. 5, onward.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENRTE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant, Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 14, onward.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
Vacant,
Aug. 8, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant, Aug 1, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, onward.

All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON, Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Big Attraction for August
Bank Holiday, Reopening Date.
Address, ERNEST CARPENTER,
Theatre Royal, Bristol.

VICTORIA THEATRE, MANSFIELD.
WANTED, First-class Companies, August,
Onwards. Modern Theatre, Lighted by Electricity.
Address, MANAGER, 53, Grosvenor-pk-rd, Walthamstow.

PRINCE OF WALES'S, NUNEATON.
WANTED, No. 1 Attractions only,
Aug. 22, Sept. 26, Oct. 31, Dec. 12, various Spring,
First-class Pantomime (second in), Feb. 13 or 20.
A. F. CROSS, Managing-Director.

THEATRE ROYAL, RUGBY.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
June 27, Oct. 3, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14, 21, and Various Spring.
A. F. CROSS, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Nuneaton.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Companies, June 27 and July 18, through termination of Tours. J. H. CURRY, as above. Three Days' silence polite negative.

WANTED Lyceum Theatre, Stafford,
Good Companies, Vacant June 13, 27, and On.
Big Attraction for August Bank Holiday. Now Booking Autumn. Certainty for Recognised Musical Shows.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies, Aug. 29 and Sept. 5, also few Later Dates.
Address, GERALD HARDING.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE,
WOLVERHAMPTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
for June 13.
Wire, FRED J. LITTLE, 124 Albert-road, Jarrow.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, owing to Transfer, Good Attraction, Musical preferred, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17, Dec. 5, 19, Feb. 6 and 20, onwards, Easter and May 16 excepted. SIDNEY COOPER.

THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
WANTED, First-class Company
for June 20.
Apply, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Comedy or Musical Companies
Touring Scotland to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness. Season Opens September. CAMERON BURGESS, Manager.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple,
Companies, Two Nights. Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple, N. Devon.

WANTED, High-class Companies, Musical
preferred, Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 14, and on, in conjunction T. B., Hawick.
W. E. POTTS, Theatre Royal, Dumfries.

STANLEY, DURHAM, ROYAL, Limited.
WANTED, Good Attraction, July 4, for
the above Up-to-date Theatre; also open to treat for Pantomime, Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 9, or Feb. 6. Must be Big Production. Bertram Damer, Esq., please write re August Date. Address, MARK H. LINDON.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Good Companies, for
Aug. 15, 22,
and intermediate onwards.
Address, letters only,
THOS. SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr E. MACKNIGHT;
Business-Manager, CHARLES E. HARDY.
WANTED, Companies, June 13, and onwards, with exceptions. Musical Pieces preferred.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Various
Summer Dates King's T., Walton-on-Naze. Modern Theatre, large Stage, good Scenery. Address, MANAGER.

WANTED, First-class Companies (Three Nights), August. Seat 800. Good Scenery, Dressing-rooms, &c. Public Hall Theatre, St. Anne's-on-the-Sea.

COMPANIES WANTED.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
Managing-Director, Mr R. C. BUCHANAN.

These Popular Theatres and their Conjunctive Bookings make the FINEST TOUR IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

A FINANCIAL AND ECONOMICAL SUCCESS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.

GLASGOW.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.
LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE.

KIRKCALDY, KILMARNOCK, GREENOCK } At present in course of Construction. { KING'S THEATRE. KING'S THEATRE. NEW THEATRE.

All communications re Dates to R. C. BUCHANAN, General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

Telegraphic Address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known,
To Touring Managers,
Re Bookings:—
Special Notice is drawn by the Managers of the undermentioned Conjunctive Theatres that they, Individually and Collectively, Bar any other Drama House in Glasgow or in the Vicinity.
The Conjunctive Theatres Referred to are:—
Grand Theatre, Glasgow; Royal Princess's Theatre, Glasgow; Metropole Theatre, Glasgow; New Gaiety Theatre, Leith; New Century Theatre, Motherwell; Grand Theatre, Falkirk; New Gaiety Theatre, Clydebank; New Gaiety Theatre, Ayr; Theatre Royal, Blyth; Borough Theatre, North Shields; and Brixton Theatre, London, S.W.; and the following Theatres, to be Opened in the course of Next Season:—King's Theatre, Kilmarnock; King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy; New Theatre, Greenock.
(Signed)
ERNEST STEVENS, ARTHUR JEFFERSON, RICHARD WALDON, R. C. BUCHANAN.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS,
July 25 (?), Aug. 1, 15, 29, Sept. 8, 19.
GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE,
Oct. 24 and on.
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
July 18 (?), Sept. 26.
BROADWAY, NEW-CROSS,
July 4, 11, 18.
GRAND, SWANSEA,
July 4.
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN,
Vacant July 11, 18, 25.
GRAND THEATRE, BOSCOMBE,
Aug. 29, Oct. 10, 17, 24.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.
Wire, "Lutanist, London."

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, Sept. 26 (Three Nights), Oct. 3, and on.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General Manager, June 6, Victoria Theatre, Broughton.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.
WANTED, Important Attraction for June 27, owing to a misunderstanding.
Apply, T. W. ROWE.

PIER PAVILION, HERNE BAY.
WANTED, High-class Companies for Few Season Dates. Aug. 1 Vacant. Musical Comedy preferred. Stage enlarged. New Stock Scenery. Electric Light.
HORACE BANKS, Manager, 366, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Companies, New Theatre now being erected in Centre of Town at cost of thousands of pounds. Vacant Dec. 5, onwards. Bookings include "From Scotland Yard," "Fiends of London," "Girl from Chicago," "Life that Kills," "Driven from Home," "Under the Russian Flag," "Home, Sweet Home," "Two Hussars," "Fatal Past," "Mysteries of Thames," "Face at Window," "Rajah," &c. Address, MANAGER, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

LIVERPOOL—THEATRE ROYAL, BRECK-ROAD.
WANTED, Combinations, Dramatic or Variety Companies, from June 20. Fully licensed for both; in a good position. All communications to be addressed to Mr M. MONTGOMERY, the Westminster, Smith-street, Liverpool.

NEW ASSEMBLY ROOMS THEATRE, WITHERNSEA, YORKS.
WANTED, No. 1 Companies, July 18, 25, and Aug. 4, 5, 6 (Three Nights), and onwards, with exceptions. Seats 1,000. Large Permanent Stage, fully equipped. This popular Seaside Resort is Eighteen Miles from Hull, and easy journey to Bridlington, Scarborough, &c. Address, H. NEWTON.

WANTED, Responsible Manager or Syndicate to Produce High-class Up-to-Date Pantomime, Christmas, 1904-5, at the Avenue Opera House, Sunderland. One of the Best Pantomime Towns in the Provinces. Productions for Past Fourteen Years have averaged Ten Weeks' Run.
Capitalists who can provide a Fully-equipped and Elaborate Production only asked to apply to
C. E. MACHIN, Avenue Opera House, Sunderland.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards, with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Whitland.

SOUTH PARADE PIER, SOUTHSEA.
WANTED, Good Companies for the Afternoons (3·0 to 5·0) and Evenings (7·0 to 8·45), from June to September inclusive. Mornings and Evenings from 9·15 already Booked. Write, stating particulars and terms (Sharing), to SECRETARY.

WORKMEN'S HALL, MOUNTAIN ASH.
The Only Fully Licensed Hall in the Town. All Modern Improvements carried out in Stage and Dressing-room Accommodation, with a Splendid Electric Light and Gas Service. One of the Finest Halls in Wales.
WANTED, Known, the Committee of Management are open to accept Engagements of Good Theatrical and Variety Companies, on Share or Rental Terms. Satisfactory references must be given.
For terms and Vacancies,
Apply to Mr WILLIAM JONES, Secretary,
the Only Authorised Person to accept Engagements in connection with this Hall.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of July 4 and 11, for this Powerful Attraction.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
Absolutely the Largest and most perfect Production of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Touring Great Britain.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 22, Sept. 19, Oct. 24, Nov. 14, Christmas. Now Booking '05. C. HARRINGTON, Lyceum Theatre, Eccles.

WANTED, for "The Private Secretary" or "Jane," Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 31, Nov. 7, 14 Managers with above Dates write,
E. C. STAFFORD, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham.

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?"
Now in Third Year of Successful Tour.
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 4, to follow Alexandra Theatre, London;
Aug. 1, Aug. 1, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
CHARLES H. STONE, To-day, Theatre Royal, Nottingham; next week, Opera House, Southport.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Sept. 26, Nov. 7, 21.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 5.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1, Oct. 3, 10, Nov. 7.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."
WANTED, Important Theatres for Walter Melville's New Play, Aug. 1, onwards.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 24, Nov. 14(?), and on. Christmas Vacant.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, for "Her Forbidden Marriage," Fredk. Melville's Latest Production, June 20, in or near London; Sept. 5 and 12, and on.

WANTED, Important Theatre in or near London, June 27, for "A Disgrace to Her Sex."
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

MR BERT COOTE'S COMPANIES.
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres. A few Autumn Dates only.

Aug. 1 Vacant, to Precede Grand, Fulham;

Oct. 10 (Midlands),

Dec. 26 (Midlands or North),

April 24, 1905 (Suburban).

"THE FATAL WEDDING."
"THE FATAL WEDDING."
"THE FATAL WEDDING."
First-class Theatres. A few Autumn Dates only.

Aug. 15 (Suburban or South),

Aug. 22 (Suburban or South),

Aug. 29 (Suburban or South),

Sept. 5 (Suburban or South),

Oct. 3 (Suburban),

Oct. 24 (North),

Nov. 14 (South or West).

All communications should be addressed to CECIL BARTH, General Manager, Princess's T., London, W

Messrs BEAUDYN and LIVESEY'S.
WANTED, Good Theatres for the New Oriental Play, by G. A. De Gray, "A Traitor Prince."
All Beautiful New Scenery, by T. Holmes and T. P. Hall, Shakespeare, Liverpool.
Everything Carried.
The Geisha Troupe of Acrobatic Dancers.
Vacant July 4, 11, Aug. 15, 22, Sept. 5, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7, 14.
June 6,
Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates for "GREED OF GOLD,"
July 18, Sept. 18, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17.
"HONOUR THY FATHER,"
Aug. 1, 2?, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 3.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attraction for Farnworth,
June 27, July 11, 18, 25 (?) Aug. 22, Sept. 5.
Swansea,
June 20, 27, July 4, 11, 18.
Brighouse,
June 27, July 4, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

FRANK NELSON'S COMPANY.
"TROOPER HUNT'S WIDOW,"
by Fred Jarman.
Wilfred Shine as Widow Hunt;
Zoe Gilfillan as Jane Watson.
WANTED, June 20 and 27, to follow Theatre Royal, Cardiff,
and
Opera House, Cheltenham.
FRANK NELSON, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

"HER FATAL PAST." One of the Strongest Draws Touring. Tremendous success at S. Shields. Refer.
WANTED, Nov. 7 (London), Nov. 21 (South), and January and February. Communications, T. E. WARD, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, June 27, for "The Golden Chance," between Empire, Oldham, and Alex., Birmingham. Everything New. Scenery, Uniforms, and Printing. Refer Messrs Sherwood, Wakefield; or, J. Culeen, Esq., Burnley. JAMES HARE, O. H., Northampton.

WANTED, Aug. 22 and Oct. 17 for "The Life that Kills."
Address, FRED MOULE, Theatre Royal, Darlington.

FRED J. KIRKE'S COMPANIES, "OUR SAILOR LAD," "IN OLD MADRID," "A GUILTY INHERITANCE."
WANTED, for either or all above Musical Plays, June 13, to follow Prince's, Preston.
June 20, 27, to precede Chesterfield, Walsall, &c.
Printing ready wire, N. T., Stanley (Sixth Visit).
Next, Prince's, Preston.

"A WOMAN'S REDEMPTION."
WANTED, June 27, Midlands, for above Beautiful Domestic Play; also Aug. 22, follow Swansea (Return). JAMES HARE, O.H., Northampton.

WANTED, "The Traitor," July 18, to oblige Chas. Elphinstone. MITCHELSON and FINEBERG, Star, Liverpool.

ALFRED PAUMIER and WALTER HOWARD'S TOURS.
WANTED, Oct. 24, Nov. 7, Christmas, on, "Why Men Love Women;" also for "Under the Russian Flag," Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 17, on. Apply, ALFRED PAUMIER, 5, Church-terrace, Richmond, Surrey.

"NEW MULDOON'S PICNIC" COMPANY.
WANTED, June 27, July 4, 25,
JOHN CASSIDY, Theatre Royal, Blyth.

"THE BLACK BISHOP."
WANTED, June 13 and onwards, with exceptions, for above Attraction.
Address, CUTHBERT,
To-day, Cradley Heath; June 6, T. R., Birkenhead.

"BIGAMY."
WANTED, Aug 1 and 22 for this New Production. FRED MOULE, T. R., Darlington.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence," July 18 (follow Leicester), Aug. 1 (follow Attercliffe), Sept. 19. C. CLIFFORD, T. R., Birkenhead.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence," Sept. 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 24. Only Vacant Dates till 1905. C. CLIFFORD, T. R., Birkenhead.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
By Wilson Barrett. From Hall Caine's Novel.
WANTED, Oct. 10, Nov. 7, 14, and 28.
New Special Scenery and Effects.
Beautifully Mounted and Splendidly Played.

The scenery was beautiful, and the accessories correct to the smallest detail.—Liverpool Courier.
Fast Booking 1905.
Theatre Royal, Hull, June 6.

"THE WEB OF FATE."
WANTED, Theatres, June 20, 27, on, with exceptions. T. R. NUGENT, T. R., Saltburn-on-Sea.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
and
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S

"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
including
the Wonderful Child Actress,

Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
in her great creation,

JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
as played by her over 700 nights in London.

WANTED, July 11
(to precede Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield),

Aug. 8
(to precede Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth),

Aug. 29,

Sept. 5, 12,

Oct. 10,

Nov. 14
(to follow Theatre Royal, Leeds).

Mr Kirk thanks Wm. Bailey, Esq, for Return Date at West London Theatre;
Charles Elphinstone, Esq., for Return Date at Hanley; also M. Montgomery, for Contract for Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

Now Booking 1905.

Refer to any of the following Bookings and Rebookings:—

Standard, London;
West London,
Surrey;
Terriss, Rotherhithe;
Royal, Stratford;
Brixton,
Queen's, Manchester;
Osborne, Manchester;
Junction, Manchester;
Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Opera House, St. Helens;
Royal Court, Wigan;
Prince of Wales's, Southampton;
Prince's, Bradford;
Theatre Royal, Leeds;
Queen's, Leeds;
Palace, Newcastle;
Grand, Blackpool;
Metropole, Glasgow;
Victoria, Burnley;
Metropole, Birmingham;
Royal, Barnsley;
Prince's, Portsmouth;
Prince's Theatre, Accrington;
Opera House, Wakefield;
Prince of Wales's, Grimsby;
Alexandra, Hull;
Alexandra, Sheffield.

General Manager,
G. CARLTON WALLACE,
Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

"THE SEAL OF SILENCE." Fourth Year of Tour.
WANTED, Aug. 1 and Good Summer and Autumn Dates. Refer R. E. Liston, Esq., T. R., Leeds, and C. P. Cooke, Esq., Grand, Nottingham. All coms., H. G. WYNN, to-day, G. T., Nottingham; next, T. R., Rotherham.

"GIPSY JACK."
WANTED, Autumn Dates for the above Popular Play. Can Play Two Pieces if necessary. Waiting for Good Dates. Fifty per cent. Gross Theatres need not apply. HENRY BEDFORD, 99, Halton-rd, London, N.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
June 20, June 20, June 20,
also July 4, July 4 July 4,
to precede and follow Oldham,
for A. G. Lytton's "Hidden Crime" Company.
Wire or write,
44, Dinsmore-road, Balham, S.W.

Important Revival
of
"LIBERTY HALL"
Messrs LENNOX PAWLE and REGINALD J. BARKER'S Tour of the above commences June 6,
THEATRE ROYAL, TORQUAY.
Loring Fernie,
and
Lennox Pawle
and
Janet Alexandre.
WANTED, Good Seaside Dates.
All communications to REGINALD J. BARKER, 38, Bedford Hotel-chambers, Covent-garden.

"SHADOWS OF A GREAT CITY."
WANTED, Big Theatres only, June 27, July 4, onwards.
HARRY FOXWELL, Palace Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

"A WOMAN'S REVENGE."
From the Adelphi Theatre, London.
WANTED, Good Theatres, June 20 (follow Crown Theatre, Peckham), 27, July 11, 18, Aug. 1.
CHALMERS, Junction Theatre, Manchester; next, Surrey, London.

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S Celebrated Drama, "ROGUES AND VAGABONDS"
WANTED, Aug. 1 (?), 15, 22, 29, Sept. 19, and on, with exceptions. Summer fully booked. Guaranteed one of the finest mounted and best advertised Productions on Tour. Re dates, HARRY EDEN, Grand Theatre, Hull.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY.
"WHAT A WOMAN DID." Thirty-fourth Week of most successful Tour. First-class Company of Fourteen Recognised Artistes, including Miss Dora Price as the Woman and Mr Frank Adair as the Marquis.
WANTED, July 11 and 18 (follow West London), Aug. 15, 22, and on, with exceptions.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, to-day, Clarence, Pontypridd; next, Theatre Royal, Barnsley.

"A TRIP TO BOSTON."
WANTED, Theatres, June 6, 13, 27, for the above successful Production. A Smart Musical Comedy Performed by First-class Vocalists, Sound Actors, and Comedians. Specialities introduced by Music Hall Artistes of Repute. Communications, the Century Agency, 337, Gray's-inn-road, London. Telephone, 1,928, Central; Telegrams, "Billheaded, London."
Wire for June 6, Midlands Preferred

MR and MRS F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANIES.
"A FIGHT FOR LIFE."
WANTED, June 13 and 20, through Closing of Theatres. To follow Walsall and Precede Nottingham. Playing to Excellent Business; refer M. Montgomery, Esq. Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY, Rotunda, Liverpool. Next, Grand Walsall.

"A LIFE AT STAKE."
WANTED, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, and various later.
JEROLD HEATHER, Paisley Theatre, Paisley, N.B.

WANTED, Good Theatres, Charles Hartley's Répertoire Co., June 27, July 25. No other Vacancies. CHAS. HARTLEY, 1, Torrington-square, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR FREDERICK E. PHILPOTT'S COMPANIES.

"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
Mr F. Coulson,
Theatre Royal,
South Shields, says:—
The funniest musical comedy ever produced.
WANTED, First-class Theatre, South and Midlands.
A Few Autumn and Spring Dates.
Everything Carried.
Beautiful Electrical Effects.
Special Printing by David Allen and Sons.
Complimented Everywhere.
Thanks to many Managers for Offers to Rebook.
Write or wire,
FREDERICK PHILPOTT, Broadstairs; or,
F. C. DEW, Esq., Theatre Royal, Dover.

"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
MR FRANK WILSON'S No. 1 COMPANY,
by Arrangement with
Mr Frank Curzon.
WANTED, Dates, Autumn Tour of above, July 18 (Three Nights, to follow Harrogate), Aug. 29, Sept. 5, and Dates on, with exceptions. Aug. 1, Bank Holiday, Open, First-class Offer.
JOSEPH WILSON, Criterion Theatre, W.

"THE NEW CLOWN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres only.
July 25, Aug. 1.
July 25, Aug. 1.
July 25, Aug. 1.
First-class Company. Everything carried.
Address, HERBERT GRENVILLE, 10, King-street, Covent-garden.

WANTED, for "A Faithful Friend," June 27, July 4, June 27, July 4, June 27, July 4, between Rotherham and London.
Receipts last week, T. R., Bristol, £236 17s. 3d.
First-class Company.
Splendid Printing. All Scenery.
Mr J. W. Henson as John Tollerton.
Wire, wire, wire, wire,
LEWIS GILBERT, this, Chorley; next, Victoria, Broughton.

WANTED, for "Partners in Crime," June 11, June 11, and on.
Everything carried.
Everything Bright and New.
Miss Florence Harle as Gladys Davenport.
LEWIS GILBERT, this, Chorley; next, Victoria, Broughton.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
DOUGLAS BRUCE'S No. 1 COMPANY.
WANTED, Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 10, Dec. 5.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Nuneaton.

WANTED, Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 12, "A Girl's Cross Roads."
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Nuneaton.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 17, 24, Dec. 5.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Nuneaton.

"THE SILVER CROSS."
WANTED, June 20, 27, all July, for the above Huge Success Nothing like it travelling. Managers, please refer or see Show, and you'll Book it. Eighteen in Company. Two Shows, Drama and Variety, in one. A revelation to Playgoers and Managers alike.
MARSTON and BUCKSTONE, Brighouse; Monday, Farnworth.

"FOR THE WOMAN HE LOVES."
Second Year of Tour.
Week after Holidays and Packed Nightly.
Refer J. W. Boughton, Esq.
Excellent business guaranteed at good Theatres.
WANTED, Theatres, June 27, July 11, and on, with exceptions.
Communications, GORDON, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth; next, Opera House, Weymouth.

WANTED, June 20, 27, and July 18, "The Conscript."
MITCHELL and BELTON, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY"
(by Arrangement with
Mr Frank Curzon).
WANTED, July 18 (Three Nights), to follow Harrogate), Aug. 4 (Three), to follow Llandudno, Aug. 15 (Three), to precede Buxton, Aug. 29, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 21, and December, with Exceptions.
Address, JOSEPH WILSON, Criterion Theatre, W.

WANTED, June 27, July 4, 11, and 18 (?), First-class Suburban Theatres, or near London, for A 1 Productions.
Half Dozen Pieces to select from, and a Good Show guaranteed.
HERBERT HOLLISTER, Theatre Royal, Dover.

THE NEW "SAPHO."
WANTED, June 20, June 20
An Enormous Success Everywhere.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grand.
Wire! Wire!! Wire!!!
JAMES BELL, Royal Hotel, Morecambe.

"THE LONDON FIREMAN."
WANTED, July 4, 18, Aug. 22, Sept. 12
GARSIDE, P.O.W. Theatre, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Important Theatres for following:—
"King of Crime," Sept. 5 and Dec. 5;
"A Woman's Pluck," Oct. 3, 10, 24, 31.
Wire, DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

MISS OSWALD'S "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, June 13, on, for this Magnificently Mounted, Advertised Musical Version.
First-class Company and Agent.
Wires, BARRS, Stalybridge; Monday, Colosseum, Oldham

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL,"
by Henry Merriman.
Enormous Success at Reading this week.
Vacant June 20, to follow
Grand Theatre, Swansea.
Now Booking Autumn and Spring, 1905
WANTED, Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 3, Onwards.
Address,
STANLEY HOPE, P. of W. T., Southampton, Six Nights.

MR LESLIE VYNER'S TOUR,
"SAVED FROM THE SEA."
Mr Leonard Robson and First-class Company.
WANTED, Aug. 15, Sept. 5 and 12
Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY.
WANTED, July 25 and Aug. 1,
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
"A LONDON ACTRESS"
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
Only Vacant Dates in 1904 are July 25, Aug. 1, 22, and 29.
Resident Managers are kindly requested to refer to any of the following Gentlemen:—Messrs Imeson, Messrs Coulson, M. Montgomery, Esq, Harris Fineberg, Esq., Lester Collingwood, Esq, Francis Laidler, Esq., A. C. Mitchell, Esq.
Now in Third Year of Successful Tour.
STUART CLEVELAND, 3, Lower Lime-street, Fleetwood.

"AT WAR WITH THE WORLD."
WANTED, June 20, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, onwards.
Everything Reliable, Printing Always Ready.
GEO. LYTTLETON, Grand, Walsall. Next, O. H., Coventry.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Christmas, January, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"SLAVES OF PASSION."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for this Powerful Attraction, Sept. 19 and 26. First-class Production, including Miss Agnes Imlay.
Wire, VIVIAN GRANTHAM, The Willows, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Aug. 8 and 15, for "Zaza."
Wire, HALDANE CRICHTON, Grand Theatre, Swansea. Next week, Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.

THEATRES WANTED

WANTED, Theatres. June 20, 27, July 11 vacant, Herbert Fuller's Racing Play, "Fiends of London."
Entire Production Carried.
Theatre Royal, Stratford (Third Visit);
Amphitheatre, Ramsgate (Return)

HENRY SWINERD'S COMPANY,
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, June 20 and July 11.
Address, J. W. CORDINER, P. O. W. T., Grimsby.

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
the Great Domestic Drama, by Frank Lindo.
Second Year of Tour. Success greater than ever.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1 (Suburbs preferred), also few late Autumn.
Now Booking 1905.
Address,
FRANK LINDO, Standard, E.

WANTED, June 27, July 18, for "A Life's Story." First-class Company. All Scenery carried. FRED BENTON, Metropole, Glasgow.

WANTED, July 4, 11 (to follow T. R. Aston), for Big Triple Bill Co., Sensational Episode, "London by Night;" Grand Musical Scena, "Jane Shore;" the Popular Musical Comedy-Drama, "The Maid of the Alps." New Songs, Dances, &c.
GEO. M. MARRIOTT,
20, South-hill-park, Hampstead, London, N.W.

IMPORTANT.
WANTED, Good Theatres, June 20, for Fred Harcourt's No. 1 High-class Variety Company, including the enormously successful Sensational Attraction, "The Mysterious Lilith" (from the Palace Theatre, London), and Company of reputed Artists selected from London's Leading Variety Theatres.
Splendid Pictorials, 16-Sheets, 12-Sheets, 6-Sheets, and Six kinds of Lithos.
Tremendous business everywhere.
Complimented everywhere by Managers on the High-class excellence of Company.
Thanks for numerous offers.
My only Vacancy this Year, June 20.
This Week, Sensational Success, Theatre Royal, Darlington.
Opened Monday Night. Enormous House.
Tuesday Night Packed at Early Doors.
This—the Week after Holidays—speaks for itself.
Refer, Jennings. Communications, FRED HARCOURT, To-day, T. R., Darlington. Next, Alhambra T., Belfast.

ARTISTES WANTED.

"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Comedy Old Gent,
Musical Director, very Smart,
Juvenile Lady,
Soubrette,
with Speciality Turns,
Two Pretty Young Lady Dancers,
with own Dresses and Novelties.
Strong Voices essential.
Also
Stage Carpenter and Wardrobe Mistress.
Open Aug. 1
for Autumn Tour.
Photo (Stamp),
References, Age, Height,
with Absolute Lowest Terms.
FREDERICK PHILPOTT, Broadstairs.

WANTED, the Bandmann Dallas Combine, with few exceptions Entire Company, for the Bandmann Dallas Répertoire Company (Comedy and Dramatic Répertoire).
Tour starts in October next.
Rehearse in London one month previously.
Address, enclosing full Particulars, &c.,
Recent References, &c.,
HENRY DALLAS, Box 7,918, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, for Grand Theatre, Plymouth, Stock Season of about Five Weeks, Rehearse June 14 Good Heavy Gent., Chambermaid (sing and Dance), Light Comedy Lady. Photo and References,
VICTOR WIDDICOMBE, Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
to Rehearse in Manchester, Full Company.
Lowest Terms, References, Photos. No Wires.
Address,
E. BAILEY, Post-office, Salford.

WANTED, Artists, with View to Future Engagements, to witness the "World's Desire."
ETHEL VAN PRAAGH and J. EDWARD WHITTY.
June 6, Terriss, Rotherhithe.

WANTED, Good Juvenile Man, Tall Robust Character Actor, Two Good Low Comedians. All must dress well on and off. Applications, stating age, height, and references (which will be used), to Mr JACK HADDON, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, Gentlemanly Heavy Man. Rehearse Tuesday, London. Lowest terms, references, HENRY L. OSMOND, Junction T., Manchester; next, Surrey Theatre.

WANTED, Heavy Gent., Comedian, and Chambermaid, for Helendale Répertoire Company. Sing and Dance. Opening for Amateur Lady and Gent. Small Premium. Town Hall, Castle Cary, Bath.

WANTED, for Musical Farcical Comedy, Good Comedian. Own Songs. Salary on Sliding Scale or take Share. Tour. MANAGER, 4, High-brighton, Withernsea, Hull.

"THE SEAL OF SILENCE." Fourth Year of Tour.
WANTED, Immediately, Comedian, Sing and Dance. Full particulars, age, height, references, lowest Summer terms, photos. (essential), to H. G. WYNN, To-day, G., Nottingham; next week, T.R., Rotherham

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"A LIFE'S REVENGE."
WANTED, First-class Comedian (Young), Good Acrobatic Dancer. Long Engagement. Fred De Vere writes: Other Vacancies probable. Photo, age, height, last two references, FRED C. SOMERFIELD, Grand Theatre, Hanley.

WANTED, Smart, Educated Actor-Vocalist with Robust Voice, or Powerful Tenor or Baritone, for Long Run. Fullest particulars, age, list of Songs, photo.,
E. H. WILLIAMS, Famous Merrie Men, Rhyl.

WANTED, Lady or Gent. Amateur. First-class Tuition. Premium £25. Small Salary to commence. Box 7,923, care of "The Era," Wellington-street, London.

WANTED, Gentlemen Amateurs for Parts in Musical Comedy. Also Partner or Business Manager, with premium. Reply, Box 7,916, care of "The Era."

WANTED, for Sketch, Clever Coloured Comedian, with Deep Voice, for Exceptionally Good Part. Box 7,929, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Ten Good-looking, Tall Young Ladies as Ballet Dancers for the Continent. One Year's Engagement
Apply any Afternoon between 3 0 and 5 0.
Sydney M. Hyam, Ltd.,
29, Leicester-square.

WANTED, First-class Lady Dancer, Tall, must have Good Voice.
Apply (letters only),
with recent photos., terms, and full particulars, to
S. TEMPLE, 157, Clapham-road, S.W.

WANTED.—An opportunity occurs for an Investment in a Répertoire Company of High-class Modern Plays, with long Tour fully Booked. Beginner thoroughly taught, and investment returned in salary and per centage on receipts. Apply, Box 7,933 "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED.—Ladies and Gentlemen lacking Previous Experience of the Stage, but desirous of adopting same as a Profession, without the Initial Payment of Heavy Fees to Dramatic Schools and Agents, should consult (Office Hours, 12 0 to 4 0) the BUSINESS-DIRECTOR of the London Theatrical Exchange, 6, Panton-street, Haymarket, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Dramatic Actress (at Liberty during Summer) in Sketch. Terms low for Town only. Height 5ft. 7in., Dark. Good Appearance. Address, A. B. C., care of Benn's 121, Lee-rd., Blackheath.

WANTED, Known, Herr Benck's Celebrated Concert Party Disengaged from July 24. Accept short Seaside Engagement. High-class business only undertaken. Extensive Répertoire of Songs, Violin Solos, and Musical Sketches. 69, High-rd., Chiswick, W.

WANTED, by Miss Elsie Shelton, Piers, Concerts, &c. Good Refined Dancer. Can Accompany. 16, Archibald-road, Tufnell-park, N.

WANTED, by High-Class Baritone, Summer Engagement. Would join Concert Party. Dis. June 6th. W. I F., c.o. J. H. STEPHENS, Grand, Stockton.

WANTED, by Baritone, Age Twenty-one, Pupil of Andrew Black, Engagement for Season. Halls or Pier Pavilions. HUTCHINSON, 15, Cambridge-gardens, Kilburn.

WANTED, by Amateur, Twelve Days' Engagement, August. Enormous success "Essex Ballads." E. H. FARRANTS, 18, High-street, Chelmsford.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

Mr Robert Arthur's Pantomimes

WANTED, Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen. Voice Trial every Tuesday, Kennington Theatre, 11 0 a.m.

WANTED, a Good Dashing Dick for Provincial Theatre; also Two Comedians. Terms, Photos. to George Aytoun, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Artistes, Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas, to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for Pantomimes 1904 and 1905, Chorus and Dancers. Young and Pretty. Good Dancers. Send Photo. DONALD ARTHUR, 434, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Two Clever Children, about fifteen years old, for Suburban Theatre Pantomime. Both must Sing and Dance thoroughly well and be capable to speak Lines. Address, JUVENILE, care of Walton's, 161, Strand W.C.

WANTED, for London and Provincial Pantomime, Ladies, Good Voices and Appearance. Apply Thursday next, between 12 0 and 2 0 o'clock, to EDWARD CRANSTON, Percy Hall, Percy-street, Tottenham-court-road, W.C.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Pantomime, by the Bedinis, with their Screaming Speciality, entitled "A Mad Bull," introducing first-class Tumbling. Own Special Scenery; also Parts. Now on tour with L. J. Sanger's Circus. Perm. address, 10, Warwick-ter., E. Finchley, N.

WANTED, Pantomime, for Good Speciality Act, including Patter, Hand Balancing, Equilibrism, Buck Dancing, Cake Walking. 1903-4 with J. Kiddie, Esq. Now open for offers. VIDO and VIDO, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, a Vacancy occurs in an Old-Established Music Hall, Situated in the West Riding, Yorkshire, for a Gentleman, as Acting-Manager. Applicants must be of Smart Appearance and Energetic, and be prepared to invest £100, Returnable in Salary (£3 per week). Full particulars, references, &c., in first instance, to Box 7,919, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Manager of First-class London Music Hall, one with Experience of Two-House a Night Preferred. Apply, Box 7,931, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Corresponding Clerk in a Variety Agent's Office. Salary £2 Weekly and Commission. A good opportunity for a smart young man to learn a highly remunerative business. Qualification investment of £200, fully secured. Address, with references, A. Z., care of Mr JOLLY, Solicitor, St. Martin's-court, London, W.C.

WANTED, Good, Quick Scenic Artist, with own Brushes, for Four Weeks. Apply, with terms and references, T. EDWARDES, Palace, Derby.

WANTED, for Suburban Theatre, Expert Property Master, who can Model and Make. Permanent Job for Sound Man. Address, with references and lowest terms, PROPS, care of Walton's, 161, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Bill-Poster Good, Steady, and Reliable Apply at once, stating references, to BILL-POSTING COMPANY, 35, Division-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistress, Must Understand Theatrical Costume Cutting, and Take Charge of Workroom. Permanency. In London. Terms must be Low. Box 7,905, "The Era," Wellington-st., W.C.

WANTED, Immediately, Wardrobe Mistress, for Musical Comedy for Summer Tour. HENRY JOHNSTON, 27, Broad-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, J. H. Victor, late Acting-Manager, Bedford Palace and Hoxton Varieties wants Re-engagement as above, or would accept control of Bars at Good Hall or Theatre. Address, 69, Britannia-road, Fulham-road, S.W.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement as Stage-Manager (Varieties) by Advertiser, Aged Twenty-nine. Good all-round Man. Good references. ALEXANDER, 10, Upham-park road, Chiswick.

WANTED, Re-Engagement as Assistant to Manager or Agent. Ten years' general experience. Young. Excellent references. COLEMAN, 83, Falcon-rd., Clapham-junction.

WANTED, by Alfred Ford, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract. Address, Drury-lane Theatre.

WANTED, Known, A. W. Moore, Scenic Artist, at Liberty for Engagement or Contract. Address, 20, Park-street, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Electrician. Fifteen Years' experience in London Halls and Theatres. Thoroughly competent in Gas, Water, Telephones &c. Box 7,928, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Fred Worthington, Master Carpenter, Disengaged, Fifteen Years with Henry Dundas, Esq. Address, 12, Portland-road, Leamington Spa.

WANTED, by Young Man, Situation as Bill-Poster. Twelve Months' Experience. Good Ref. S. VERRELL, 97, Park-end, Bromley, Kent.

WANTED, Engt. as Wardrobe Mistress, by Experienced Person. Design, Cut, Fit, and Make. M., care of EASBY, 21, Green-st., Leicester-square, W.C.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First Violinist and Cornet for Three Months' Yachting. Orient routine. Apply, by letter, BAND MASTER, Cuzco, Tilbury Docks.

WANTED, Violinist, July 4 to Sept. 10. Dancing. AMELER, 46, Euston-grove, Morecambe.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Solo Cornet and First Clarionet Players as Attendants in a County Asylum. Salary £38 to £43. All Found. Single Men, Apply with Testimonials as to Character and Abilities, W. GRAINGER, County Asylum, Stafford.

WANTED, Two First Cornets and Double Drummer, for Sedgwick's Menagerie; 30s. per week. Season Engagement. Annan, Saturday; Dumfries, Monday, Scotland.

WANTED, Cornet and Clarionet (Good) for Bournemouth Town Band. Terms Shares. H. WAGNER, Secretary, Bournemouth Town Band, Prince of Wales Hotel, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Cornet (Good), at Once, for the Tunbridge Wells Military Band. Terms, Shares. Apply, SECRETARY, 80, Camden-road.

WANTED, Cornet, Clarionet, and Piano, for String Orchestra, for Twelve Weeks, commencing June 19th. Must be Good Performers. Sobriety and Gentlemanly Appearance indispensable. State lowest terms and age. GREENHEAD, 10, St. George's, Herne Bay.

WANTED, Cornet, Euphonium, Trombone, and Bass. Salary 30s. Biddall's Menagerie, Duddinghill, Willesden, Sat.; Cobham, Mon.; Ripley, Tues.

WANTED, First Cornet (Good), Open Monday. Permanent, wire or call, C. E. HOWELLS, Conductor, South London Palace, London-road, S.E. Private address 28, Kildoran-rd, Acre-lane, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, a Clarionet and Oboe (Lady), for Madame Angless's Ladies' Orchestra, No. 2 Company. Address, 78, Norwood-road, S.E. Re-engaged Fourth Season, New Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Trombone, Bombardon, and Drums at once for Tenting. 30s. per week each. Apply, MATT CORBETT, Circus, Brynmawr, Mon.

WANTED, Euphonium and Trombone, Tenting. Join at once. Address, H. SHELLEY, Circus, Westbury, Wiltshire.

WANTED, Euphonium and Bombardon. Terms, 30s. Tenting. Long, comfortable Shop. Join at once. JOHN DUFFY, Duffy's Circus, Wooford, Galway, Ireland.

WANTED, Oboe, First Clarionet, Trombone, 'Cello, Second Cornet, also First Violin, who can accompany, for String Orchestra, Seaside Engagement, for Six Weeks, commencing July 24. Play Twice Daily and Sunday Evening. No uniform State lowest terms to CONDUCTOR X., "Topical Times" Bureau, 12, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden.

WANTED, Flautist, to Open at Once Must thoroughly understand Variety Business. Permanency to competent man. Apply, J. WHITELOCK, Conductor, Palace, Halifax.

WANTED, Lady Pianist and Vocalist (Good) for First-class Al Fresco Season; also Sisters doing Singles and Double. Good Comedian write. State lowest terms for season, with photo. if possible, M'CULLOCH, Glen Grawe, Laxey, Isle of Man.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, to act as Conductor. Apply, with lowest terms and references, to MILTON EODE, County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Pianist (First-class). One used to Variety Bus. Also Lady Serio. To join at once. Send photos. MARCELLO SANCHEY, 8, Green-street, Saltcoats, Ayr.

WANTED, Pianist (Lady). State Age, Height, and Experience. Good opportunity to suitable person. Permanent Engagement. Box 7,909, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Portable Player, Male, Young, own Instrument, for Summer Season, Seaside, Sobriety essential. Apply, or write, B., 10, Little Paris-street, Lambeth, S.E.

WANTED, Pianist and Vocalists' Pitching Seaside. Box 7,932, "The Era" Office, Wellington street.

WANTED, Drummer (Orchestral), Seaside, Devonshire. Season. Seven Performances. No Mats. 35s. VAN BIENE and PHILLIPS, 19, Severus-road, Clapham-junction.

GRAND THEATRE (late Eden), BRIGHTON.

WANTED, Full Orchestra, Opening July 18. Permanency to Good Reliable Men. References and lowest terms to ERNEST CARPENTER, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

WANTED, Instrumentalists, for Palace Orchestra, Southampton. Must be well Experienced in Variety Business, Overtures, Selections. Terms and references, MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

WANTED, Euphonium, Trombone, and Bass (Good), for Hanneford's Circus, Touring Ireland. Must be steady and reliable. Join at once. Good Tentmaster can Open at once. Wire, Saturday, Circus, Clogheen; Monday, Clonmel.

WANTED, a Small Circus Band (String) for the Summer Season, commencing July 25. Address, MANAGER, care of Mr F. COOPER, 8, Dudley-terrace, Beaumont-street, Mile-end, London. Please allow good time for answers.

A. M. U. Musical Agency.

WANTED, Musicians anxious to secure the best terms before accepting Engagements in Scotland to write to Mr J. Bartley, 9, Seamore-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, the A. M. U. Musical Agency, Proprietors of the Famous Imperial Bands, have Booked several important Engagements for the coming Season. Military and Orchestral Bands on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet, containing full particulars, to the Manager, C. JESSON, The Institute, 96, Longacre, W.C. Telephone, 9,827 Central.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS

WANTED, by Experienced Conductor (Violin), Engagement, Theatre or Variety. Compose, Arrange. M.D., Renad's "Swiss Express." H. NATION, 116, High-street, Collier's-wood, Merton, S.W.

WANTED, by Musical Director of First-class Provincial Theatre, Summer Engagement as Leader or First Violin. Apply, 17, Pepys-road, New-cross-gate.

WANTED, by Conductor (Experienced), Change. Good Theatre or Tour. Good references. Steady, Abstainer. Box 7,904, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Conductor, Violin, Combine Brass (can Supply Band), an Engagement. Address, P. SWIFT, Leader, Palace Theatre, Belfast.

WANTED, by Leader (First Violin or Viola), Engagement. Composer, Arranger. Up-to-Date Library. Highest refs. Liberty June 9. WALTON, Mus. Dir., Poole's Myriorama, Pontardulais, S. Wales.

WANTED, by Conductor (Violin) or Leader, Engagement. Any Business. Good Refs. Wire or Write, H. D HURST, Castle Hill, Lindley, Lancs.

WANTED, by Leader or First Violin, Engagement in Good Orchestra; reliable and experienced. LEWIS, 415, Lisburn-road, Belfast.

WANTED, by Conductor or Leader (Violinist), Engagement, through Closing of Theatre. EDGAR THORPE, 34, St. Nicholas-road, Brighton.

WANTED, by Musical Director or Leader. Engagement. Thoroughly Experienced. Good Library of Music. Highest References. W. DENTON, 49, Milward-road, Hastings.

WANTED, by First or Second Violin (Combine First or Second Trombone), Engagement. At Liberty June 25. Address, LEADER, New Theatre, Oxford

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Répétiteur or First Violin, Engagement. Good refs. Could join at once. VARENBERG, 1, Council-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, by Musical Director (Violin), Engagement at a Provincial Theatre. Young Man, Steady, and Reliable. Address, Box 7,879, "The Era."

WANTED, by Violinist and Clarionet, also Baritone Vocalist, Engagement. Twelve Years' Orchestral Experience. DOWELL, 44, South-parade, Southsea.

WANTED, by Violinist, Summer Engagement, or Permanent. At Liberty through closing. Good references. HART, 65, Grasmere-street, Bolton.

WANTED, by First Violin and Cornet, Engagement in Good Seaside Orchestra, together or separate. What offers? Write, SHAW, Heanor, Notts.

WANTED, by Violinist (combine Cornet), Summer Engagement or Deputising. Good refs. HARRY WILLOWS, 11, Haven-bank, Boston, Lincolnshire.

WANTED, by First or Second Violin, Engagement. Excellent refs. Any bus. Wire or write, HEALS, Palace Varieties, Belfast.

WANTED, by First and Second Violins and Double Bass (Ladies, Young, Experienced). Good testimonials. Apply, C. M., 32, Montrell-road, Streatham-hill, London.

WANTED, by Violinist and Harpist, Engagement with Promenade or Boat Band. Would Join Vocalist. J. and F. STEWART, 2, Howden-ter., Leeds.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement as Leader, also a Second or Viola. WARD, Hippo., Leigh, Lanc.; after to-day, Lower Audley-st., Blackburn.

WANTED, by Violin, Viola, 'Cello, and Trombone, Engagement, together or separate. Write, LEADER, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, by Violinist (Lady) Engagement in Orchestra. London preferred. Splendid Soloist, every experience. At Liberty from June 18 till Aug. 18. Box 7,845, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Cornet (First or Second), Re-engagement. Sober and Reliable. Good refs. Address, CORNETTIST, 111, Sydney-street, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, by Cornet (Experienced String or Military), Engagement. At Liberty June 6. CORNETTIST, 6, Robinson-street, Blackburn.

WANTED, by Cornettist, Engagement any business. Disengaged June 6th. 47, Stopford-road, Plaistow, London, E.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, Military or String. H. HATHRILL, Clunes Cottage, Hanover-street, St. Paul's, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Cornettist, Re-engagement. Any Business. At Liberty June 6. Prime Co. F. M'KENZIE, 43, Barcaple-street, Springburn, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet and Pianist (Gent. and Lady) Engagement. Together or separate, CORNETTIST, 63, Woodbridge-road, Ipswich.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, Engagement. Well up, Theatre or Variety. Best of references. Can join Monday. C. LILLIE, 73, Lebanon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, by Cornet, Permanent or Summer Engagement. Experienced in Opera. Solo Cornet, Clevedon, 1900 and 1901; Broadstairs, 1902 and 1903. Liberty June 6.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Orchestral or Military, B Flat or E Flat, Engagement. Can join at once. Box 7,911, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Clarionet (Good), Engagement Dis. June 10. J. BRYAN, Pembroke Imperial Yeomanry, King's Arms Hotel, Llandovery, S. Wales.

WANTED, by Clarionet (Experienced), Engagement. Good refs. Any Bis. HART, 485, Grimsby-road, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement. Any Business. String or Military. Would depute. Distance no object. HATFIELD, 108, Paradise-road, Clapham.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement. Disengaged through closing. Any Business. T. CRAWSHAW, 89, St. Stephen's-avenue, Shepherd's-bush, London.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Permanency, Theatre or Music Hall. Late Crystal Palace. BENTLEY, 17, Morland-buildings, Earl-street, Westminster.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement (through closing), any business. At Liberty Monday, June 6. A. MILLER, Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, by Clarionettist (Excellent), E Flat or B Flat, Engagement. GARDNER, 50, Aglionby-street, Carlisle; after to-day, 41, Spencer-street, Chesterfield.

WANTED, by Solo Clarinettist, Engagement. Fifteen years' experience. Open at once. CHARLES RICE, 38, Brook-street, Kennington.

WANTED, by String Bass, Re-engagement, or Deputising. Thoroughly Experienced. Good references. LYND, 170, Drakefell-road, Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, by String Bass, Engagement. Any Business. Experienced. Highest references VENDOME, 28, Alton-road, Richmond, Surrey.

WANTED, by Double Bass (Experienced and Reliable), Engagement. WHITAKER, 124, Manchester-road, Nelson, Lancs.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Experienced, Reliable, Engagement for Seaside. Address, GEORGE TONKS, Nethercot, Gravelly-hill, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Double Bass and Bombardon Player, or Separate, Engagement. Good References and Experience. BARSON, 30, Harcourt-street, Marylebone-road, W.

WANTED, by Double Bass (Experienced), Short Engagement, or Deputising. Open till June 25. TOM TROLLEY, Eynsford, Thicket-cr., Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, by Four-stringed Bass, can combine Bombardon, Engagement. Highest refs. CLARK, 76, Schofield-road, Rawtenstall, Lancashire.

WANTED, by Double Bass, also Second Violin, Engagement, together or separate, any business. At Liberty June 6. Good refs TERRY, Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

WANTED, by Double Bass and Bombardon, Engagement. H. STEMBRIDGE, Vacant till July 25, 26, Camden-grove, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Steady and Reliable, Engagement in the West Riding of Yorkshire. Address, Box 7 917, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Trombone or Euphonium, Engagements. Matinées, Dances, Balls, or Short Engagements in General. Experienced and Reliable. J. F. FAIRCHILD, Fernleigh, Elmdale-rd., Palmer's-grn., N.

WANTED, by Trombone (Good), Engagement. Lib. June 11th. Good refs. Well up in Military, Orchestral, or Theatre. Address, J. A. MATTHEWS, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, by Trombone (Orchestral or Military), Engagement, Monday, June 13 JOHN COTTON, Poole's Myriorama, Pontardulais, near Swansea.

WANTED, by Trombone or Euphonium (Efficient), Engagement. HUTCHINSON, 20A, Abbey-street, Carlisle; after Sat., 88, Mitchell-st., Nottingham.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement, Theatre, Music Hall, or Seaside. Experienced. R. R WILLIAMS, Llwyncelyn, Llangain, Carmarthen.

WANTED, by Bombardon and Double Bass, Engagement. Thoroughly reliable. First class reference. E. LAZZARI, 24, Hoxton-road, Torquay.

WANTED, by Bombardon, Engagement (Seaside preferred), after June 10. Good refs. A. SALISBURY, 39, Henry-street, Chatham.

WANTED, by Viola, Summer Engagement. Experienced. Excellent references. VIOLA, 23, Grove-road, Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Bombardon, Summer Engagement (could do Yeomanry Training) Good references. Dis. June 10th. J. NOONAN, Band, K.O.N.I. Yeomanry, Camp, Crown Point, Norwich.

WANTED, by Euphonium (immediately), Engagement. Well experienced, String or Military. SPENDLEY, 11, Witham-terrace, East-street, Grantham. Works Band apply. Trombone also at Liberty.

WANTED, by French Horn, Engagement, for Season or Permanency. Good Reader and Transposer. Address, A. FOX, 9, Loxham-street, Great Lever, Bolton.

WANTED, by Viola or Violin, Engagement. Theatre or Music Hall. Good references. G. ESHE, 5, New Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement in Band, Town or Country. F H., 49, Cowley-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, by 'Cello or Violinist, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall. Thoroughly Experienced. Good Refs. EGBERT INRPEN, 8, Milton-road, Southampton.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement. T. R., Barnsley. Any Business. Seaside preferred. J. HERBERT MILLS, 29, Spencer-st., Park-gr., Barnsley, Yorks.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Good, Experienced, Engagement, end June and July. Four to Six Weeks. A. HOWARD, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, by 'Cello or Bass (any Business), Engagement; highest references. PHILLIPS, 52, Star-lane, Carlton-hill, Nottingham.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, good Summer Engagement. Experienced. Good references. Address, W. D. KRUSSEN, 33, Beatrice street, Bootle, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Oboe (Combine Piano), Engagement. References. OBOEIST, care of DICKINS, 39, Perham-road, West Kensington.

WANTED, by Solo Harpist, Maud Estlin Grundy, Age Sixteen, Sallé Erard, Alexandra P.; Aqm., Brighton. 18, Lawn-rd., Hampstead, London, N.W.

WANTED, by Harpist, Engagement Any Business. Can join at once. Address, HARPIST, 2, Standard-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by Solo and Orchestral Harpist and Pianist, Summer Engagement. Any Bus. Reliable. Refs. SINCLAIR, 30, Empire-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo Engagement, String or Military. Disengaged June 13. Good references. NICKEL, Band, Third Lincoln Regiment, Louth.

WANTED, by Flautist (First-class, Thoroughly Experienced) Engagement. Any Business. Would Deputise. FLAUTIST, King's Arms Hyde. Manchester.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement, String or Military. Disengaged June 13. Good refs. W. THOMPSON, Orchestra, T. R., Brighton.

WANTED, by Flautist, Engagement, Principal, Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool. Address, FRANK M'LOUGHLIN, 61, Kelso-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Flautist (Principal), Engagement, by Mr Frank M'Loughlin, Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool. Highest refs. 61, Kelso-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo (Experienced), Seaside Summer Engagement. Last Season with Hiram Henton, at Worthing. Good refs. T. B. KNIGHT, 16, Kempsford-road, Kennington.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo (Experienced), Engagement. Any Business. At Liberty through Shop closing. FLAUTIST, 6, Castle-ter., Oxford.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement in Ladies' Orchestra. Address, Miss GESSIE FRAIT Park-street, Chatteris.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Summer Engagement. At Liberty. FRANK MURPHY, Palace of Varities, Belfast.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement. Liberty through closing. SLADE, 2, Rose-cottages, Hambrook-st., Charlton Kings, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Pianist (First-class, Long Experience), Engagement, any Business (Large or Small). Thoroughly Reliable. Last Engagement Nine Years. Particulars, LORENZO LEWIS, 744, Oxford-road, Reading, Berks.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement through Theatre closing. Thoroughly experienced in Variety and Dramatic Business. L. MAJOR HORNSEY, New Theatre, Merthyr Tydfil.

WANTED, by Pianist (Lady), Engagement. Any Business. Two Years Olympia, Sunderland. Good Reader. Miss RIDGWAY, 3, Crowtree-ter., Sunderland.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement. Any business. Sight Reader, Accompanist, &c. Well up in Dance Music. M. G., 6, Champion-cres, Sydenham.

WANTED, by Pianist or Conductor, Engagement from June 20, any business. Address, JOHN BRIERLEY, Mus. Dir., H. and F. Poole's No. 1 Myriorama, King's Theatre, Ebbw Vale; after Saturday, P.O., Nanty-Moel, S.W.

WANTED, by Double Drums, Engagement. Own Tymps. Theatre or Season. MUSICIAN, 19, Ernest-road, Forest-gate.

WANTED, by Tympanist, Drums, &c., Engagement. Address, HARRIS, 150, Caunce-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, by Tympanist, Summer Engagement (through Closing). Own Tympanis and Effects. Good refs., Seaside Preferred. BRADSHAW, 8, Bostock-rd., Owlerton, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Double Drums and Effects, Engagement. Experienced and Efficient. Any Business. CHAPMAN, 16, Sidney-street, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, with Effects, Good Engagement. Experienced, Efficient, and Steady, B., Home Park House, Hampton-wick.

WANTED, by Drums and All Effects, Engagements. Thoroughly Experienced. Any Business. Now at Lib. HAYES, 165, Breck-rd, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Double Drummer and Tympanist, Engagement. Thoroughly Experienced. Good refs. D., 7, Arthur-street, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Engagement in any Business or Deputy in London. Block F, 134, Thorawl-street, Whitechapel, E.

WANTED, by Ladies' Bands and other Artistes, Engagements. ENTERTAINMENT BUREAU, M. ALDIS, 8, Bedford-terr., Kensington. Tel., 1,824, Kensington.

WANTED, by Small Band, including Piano, Engagement. First-class People, used to any business. Quote terms and send for Programme. GUS HARRIS, Solo Violinist, 65, Grosvenor-road, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, 27th onwards, by Pretorian Orchestra and Vocalists. Just terminated Three Years' Engagements. BLAKER, 7, Bridge-street, Hereford.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an Advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

To the Manager of 'The Era' Advertisement Dept.
"Re Advertisement
WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion "Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster
"Littlehampton."

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME, SHEERNESS.

WANTED, Big Novelties at all times for the above. Must be new to Sheerness. State lowest terms and full particulars in first letter. No commission please. Address, TRANSFIELD, above.

WANTED, for the Hippodrome, Guernsey (Proprietor, Edward Smith), the Best of Specialities, Novelties, Acrobats, Musical Acts, Troupes of Dogs, Gymnasts, Performing Lions, Bicycle Acts, Illustrated Songs, in fact anything that can be worked on a Stage. State lowest, rock-bottom price and all particulars for Immediate and Future Dates.

Address, E. SMITH, Hippodrome, Guernsey. Wire for Immediate Vacancies to above.

WANTED, for Swansea Hospital Fêtes, Aug. 4 and 5. Sensational Attractions (new to South Wales), Dumb Shows. Good Artistes can always get other Engagements. Llanelly Fêtes to follow. Lowest absolute terms, H. STUDTS and SON, Porth, South Wales.

WANTED, Startling Sensational Attractions for Fêtes, August Bank Holiday and other dates, Must have Picture Posters. Lowest terms daily (Return fares from London paid). Specimen Poster, &c. MONTGOMERY, 51, Cornwallis-road, Upper Holloway, London.

WANTED, for Numerous Fêtes, August Bank Holiday and Other Dates, Trick Cyclists, Performing Animals, Wire Walkers, Trapeze Performers, Musical Acts, Acrobats, &c. State lowest terms. Rail Fares paid. Enclose lithos. Sylvester, Royal Agent, 271, Clapham-road, London.

WANTED, First-class Lady Crack Shot. Must have a Good Act to work with a New Speciality. Smart appearance and good figure. Apply, Box 7 910, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Immediately, Youth as Knock-about Roller-Skater, to join at once. Long Engagement if Suitable. Letters only, VANCE, T. R., Liverpool.

WANTED, Two Active Girls, Fourteen to Fifteen Years, to Learn Acrobatic Line, for Renowned Troupe. Address, Box 7,926, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, First-class Top Mount. Apply, LEOPOLD, Theatre Royal, Bath.

WANTED, Young Man who can do Comedy Tumbling, to join well-known Comedy Acrobatic Troupe. State Tricks and terms, in first letter, Box 7,875, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, at once, a Boy as Apprentice, height about 5ft. Must have a knowledge of Bending. Small pocket-money. Age Fifteen to Sixteen. Apply or call to H. B., 154, Lambeth-road, London, S.E., between 5·0 and 5 30 Evenings

WANTED, Smart Boy, for Top Mount and Tumbler. Good Home. Address, Box 7 927, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, for Skegness Pier during Summer Months, Novel Diving Turn from the Pier. Apply, stating experience, references, and wages required, MANAGING DIRECTOR, Pier, Skegness.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London W.C

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Educated Lions. Best on the Road. Third Year Successful Tour in England. Two more to follow. Vacant Dates, July 11, Oct. 3, 10, and 31, 1904, also Christmas, and few Dates 1905. Thanks to Messrs H. and E. Cadle, H. B. Marinelli, and L. Graydon for Sixty-five Weeks' Bookings, including Messrs Moss and Thornton, Stoll, Brill and Graydon, and Macnaghten Tours, &c. For terms and particulars, apply to above Agencies; or Mr L. JENSEN, Proprietor of Ella's Lions. June 6, Empire, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Known, to Circus Proprietors, Hippodrome Managers, and Agents, the Latest and Greatest Circus Novelty, the Sisters Deering, Greatest of all Three Horse Riders now before the Public. Great success at the Tower Circus, Blackpool. Complimented by everybody and the talk of Blackpool. Read what the Blackpool Times says about this Great Act. The event of the programme and quite the opposite style is given by the Three Sisters Deering, whose daring and clever equestrian performance on the three bare-backed horses is rightly described as the acme of grace and skill. They appear in full evening dress and go through the most wonderful performance ever seen in a circus ring, and our old friend of circus fame, Ohmy, appears with them in their great act as equestrian master.

Notice.—The Sisters Deering shortly at Liberty. Address, Tower, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, that R. Yelding, Premier Jockey, is at Liberty with own Horse, one of the Finest in the Business, with a number of Acts. Up to date. At Liberty, Monday, June 6. Wire or write, 60, Lower Oxford, Swansea, South Wales.

WANTED, Known, Mrs. Dudley Smith and her mare Dainty Lass, winner of 243 prizes, is at Liberty. A wonderful exhibition of show leaping. Address, 118, Warwick-road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Handy Andy (Frank Anderson), Knockabout, Tumbling, Talking Clown and Agouste, at Liberty. 41, Lavan-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, that Eleonora, Lady Gymnast, and the Beautiful Vanda, in her Great and Up-to-date Juggling Act on the Revolving Globe; also First-class Wire Act, are Vacant June 20 and 27. Three Distinct Specialities. Address, care of Post-office, York.

WANTED, Known, Cara Magda, Lady Sensational Gymnast, Liberty June 6, 13 Halls or Galas. For Galas, 40ft. high. No Net. 2, Hadfield-terr., Blackley, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte (Lady and Gent), Gymnastic Pot-pourri Act, Free July onwards. Address, LES TERRES, Guernsey.

WANTED, Known, Les Valdos, the Inimitable Continental Eccentrics, Comedy Acrobats, and Tumblers. Acknowledged to be the best Comedy Act of its kind. Vacant June 13, 27. VALDOS, 6, Sutton-street, Holloway Head, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday next, by Bros. Lloddge, Silver Chain Acrobats, Halls, Galas, Circuses. Wire quick, 55, King Cross-street, Halifax.

WANTED, by Zanetto and Miss Lorene, Bantam Athletic Marvels, Greatest Drawing Novelty extant, June 6, 13. 80, Margaret-st., Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Monday and June 13, Osmond, Wonderful Acrobatic Table and Chair Act, Wire, 12, Myrtle-grove, Weaste, Manchester.

WANTED, by Harland and Rollison, July and Aug. 15. Just finished Panoptican Concert, Lokaal, Amsterdam. Monday, Transfield's Hippo, Sheerness. Northampton to follow.

WANTED, August Bank Holiday and Few Other Dates by the World-renowned Pareni, Most Reliable High-wire Performer for Galas Big Success Jury's Gala, Whit Monday; Le Mare's, Whit Thursday. Splendid Lithos. 9, Portland-street, Soho, London.

WANTED, Monday Next and Onwards, Bros. Costello, Clever Contortionists, Acrobats, Tenting, Circus Specialities. Parts Drama, or Any Line. Wire, Empire, Greenock.

WANTED, Known Almero, Aerial Norwegian Spar and Smart Wire Act. Value for Money. For Vacancies apply, Hippodrome, Guernsey, Channel Islands.

WANTED, June 27 on, Balzens and Pei-Ho, One Lady, Two Gents., Japanese Variety Wonders, Two distinct Specialities, suitable every Entertainment, Splendid for Galas. Carnival, Glasgow.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, that the Beautiful Vanda, in her Great Juggling Speciality, also First-class Wire Act, is Vacant June 20, 27. Hall or Gala. Two Distinct Specialities. Address, care of Post-office, York.

WANTED, by Houpla and Hecla, Equilibrists and Acrobats, June 6 and 13. Wire, Thorne, Doncaster.

WANTED, Known, Volray, Equilibrist, &c., also Conjuror and Clown, free June 13 for Galas, Seaside, &c. Pictorials, terms, &c., 1, Mabbotts-place, Holland-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Austin and Austin, Original Comic Pyramid of Chairs and First-class Foot Equilibrist. Two Acts. At Liberty November. Address, 23, Cleveland-terrace, Northampton.

WANTED, Known, Mons. De Greine, Juggler, Liberty June, July, August, Circus, Halls, Fêtes.

WANTED, by Goliath and Walford, June 13, 27. Goliath, the Strongest Boy in the World. £50 Challenge. Usual Success, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy. Coms, WALFORD, 6, West Caroline-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, by Swift Trio (Two Ladies, One Gent.), Comic Bicycle Speciality, Liberty June 6, 13. Conclude To-night Britannia, Hoxton. Wire, 43, Oscar-street, St. John's, London, S.E.

WANTED, July Dates, for Jackson and Jackson, Whirlwind Cyclists. Success, Montgomery Hall, Sheffield; next, care of Redfern, Surrey-street, Sheffield. Thanks Jasper Redfern for June Dates. Liberty July, Wire.

WANTED, by Young Man (Twenty-three), to become Pupil to Gymnast. Good Hand-stand. 9st.; 5ft. 6in. Good Appearance. Work Bar a little. C. K., 6, Maldstone-road, Norwich.

WANTED, Engagements for Airship Flights. Balloon Ascents, One to Six Balloons; Parachute Descents, by Ladies or Gentlemen (from Gas Balloons or Hot-air Balloons); Captive Balloons, ascending 1,000ft. Terms upon application, SPENCER BROTHERS, Limited, Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c., 45B, Aberdeen-park, Highbury, London, N.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

ABERDEEN and DUNDEE PALACE VARIETY THEATRES.
Booked in Conjunction with the Livermore Tour.
WANTED, Known, to Artists. The above Theatres close June 4, Reopen July 18. Silence in the meantime a respectful negative.
ERNEST SHELDON, Director.

Scotch Tour.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artistes, Tivoli, Glasgow; Queen's, Glasgow; Palace, Kilmarnock. All can offer Twelve Weeks, W. F. Frame Tour. Full List of Bookings, terms, &c., Barney Armstrong, Vaudeville Club, Charing-cross-road, London, until further notice.

John Hy. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy Children, Ladies' Orchestra, and Variety Combine. Established 1888.
WANTED, for Season 1904-5, Variety Artistes all Lines, and clever Juveniles, commence September. Particulars and lowest terms to SMALLTHORNE, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, for July 4, 11, 18, Teignmouth, Paignton, and Ilfracombe; also Turns suitable for Sunday Concerts. Lowest combination terms. Very Small Halls URQUHART MACKINNON, 54, Albert-road, Blackpool. No stamps. Silence a courteous negative.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists and Specialities of the First Water to Join the Marvellous Three Howard Brothers, who are shortly Touring Australia and New Zealand with their own Company. Artistes known to us write stating their lowest terms for Twelve Months, also Wanted Novelties for the Cape Town Exhibition, commencing November. Address, Professor THOMAS HOWARD (of Marvellous Howards), care of Bostock and Wombwell's South African Enterprise, Box 1640, Cape Town, South Africa. See our other Advertisement. My Brothers are now at Wellington, New Zealand. Best wishes to all my Friends. I will Buy anything worth Buying.
Remember, I can show anything and make a success of it.
Puzzle, why? Because I am a showman, not a mushroom. Ha! ha! ha! Let those laugh that win.

WANTED, Variety Artistes for June 13 and Onwards. Address, Perry Theatre, Pembroke Dock.

IRISH TOUR.
TIVOLI, DUBLIN; PALACE, CORK; ALHAMBRA, BELFAST.
WANTED, Artists, Stars, Good Novelties, Serios, Comedians, Comedy Sketches, Acrobats, Jugglers, New and Novel Acts. Will Sley, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and future Dates. Lessee and Manager, WM. MOULD. Central Palace, North Shields.

GOOD TEMPLARS' HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
Now Booking for Season, Sept. 3, 1904, to March 25, 1905.
WANTED, Artistes, to Send Vacant Dates and Lowest Terms at once to WM. BIGGAM, Musical Secretary, 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow. Three Halls, Turn of Fifteen to Twenty Minutes in each. Conveyances provided between the Halls.

WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, Stars, and Novelties, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. State lowest terms, &c. Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, Morecambe. Late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Telegrams, "Value, Morecambe."

WANTED, People's Palace, Wolverhampton, Artists, in all Lines, to Open July 4 and onwards. People used to Sketches Write. No fancy salaries. Address, RICHARDS, 1, Frankfort-buildings, Frankfort-st., Plymouth.

HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS OF VARIETIES, FOUNDRY-STREET, DEWSBURY.
General Manager, GEORGE WELDON.
The present Season will terminate June 18, Reopening July 25
WANTED, Artistes of every Description, for Aug. 1, 15, Sept. 5, and onwards. If unknown to the Management, applicants will oblige by stating where they can be seen performing during the next Seven or Eight Weeks.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes, all Lines, June 13 onwards. State terms, Bookings, &c. Star Turns, Star Turns for Manchester, Liverpool, Rochdale, Dewsbury, Blackpool, Morecambe, Yarmouth, Rhyl, Oldham, Leeds, &c. Big Fête and Gala Acts. Principals and Specialities for Pantomime. Nothing too Big. Lithos, Photos, to Edgar Stebbings, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, Two Weeks, June 20, July 4, 18, Aug 15. Living Novelties. Prodigies. Can open at once. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxwork Exhibition, Dublin.

WANTED, Artistes, for First-class Fête and Gala, Aug. 1. First-class Artistes only. Send Terms, Lithos, &c., A. E. HENLY, Bury St. Edmunds.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, from now, on. Apply Mr SCOTT, Empire Music Hall, Wrexham.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artistes in All Lines for Billy Moore's New Pavilion, Hoylake. Absolute Lowest Terms and Photos. in First Letter.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

EMPRESS THEATRE OF VARIETIES, HARTLEPOOL.
Proprietors, Councillor EVERTON and CRAGG; General Manager, HARRY BURNS; Acting-Manager, C. FERRIER.
All communications must be addressed to Harry Burns, Harry Burns's Agency, only.
Telephone, 0,231; Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, the Best of Variety Talent in the Business, Immediate and Onwards.
Dates can also be had for 1905, 1906. The Prettiest and Coziest Music Hall in the North. Fully Licensed. Open all the Year Round.
Call, Monday, June 6, 10 o'clock prompt. Tom Lloyd, Keith and Merson, Vera Mayne, Kit Keen, Archie Glen, Sisters Redfern, Will Cornish, Burns's Bioscope, and the Otto Barra Troupe. All must attend.
(Signed) H. BURNS, General Manager.
Artistes Please Note Rules No. 5 and 6 particularly on all Contracts, which will be Strictly Enforced. Any Star Artists having a Week after Middlesbrough, Newcastle, or break from Scotland, communicate immediately to Harry Burns's Agency.

WANTED.—Any Artiste Desirous of being seen in London by Harry Burns's Agency with a view to being put on the Books, Communicate immediately, stating where working, and time, to my London Agents and Representatives, Ernest Warner, 156, Stockwell-park-road, Brixton; Edward Cranston, 6, Chandos-street, Covent-garden. Telephone, 5,025 Gerrard.
All further communications, Burns's Agency, London and Manchester. Private communications, Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.
Telephone, 0,231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines for June 6, and onwards, Fred Durham's Agency. 'Phone, 2,477 Hop. 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, S.W.

WANTED, Artistes in All Lines with immediate and later Dates Vacant to communicate with Cavill and Co., 15, Hotham-street, Liverpool Telegrams, "Overture, Liverpool." Telephone, 2,140 Royal.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines new to Southport, June 13. Apply, ATROY, Winter Gardens.

WANTED, Artistes, Anything who can Follow Marie Loftus, Elliotte and Savonas, Maggie Duggan, &c.—In fact, anything big for Liverpool, Manchester, Bolton, Rochdale, St. Helens, Warrington, Ashton, Wigan, Leeds, York, Barrow, Stoke, Derby, Grimsby, Dudley, Northampton, Coventry, &c. New Brighton, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Artistes out June 6 and 13 wire or write sharp. Jess Verno's Agency, 13, Seymour-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2,076 Royal Good Turns Free for Dudley July 11 write

Chas. Warner's Variety Agency, 10, Reservoir-rd., Halifax.
WANTED, Artistes of all Descriptions for Present and Future Dates Artistes must State Terms they are at Present Receiving, and not what they Hope to obtain. No Attention will be Given unless Full Particulars and Bookings, together with Permanent Address are Sent. Pantomime Artistes Wanted for 1904-5.

WANTED, Artistes, in all Lines, for June 13, and on. Lowest Combination Terms to Hugh Dempsey, 113, Richmond-rd., Islington, London, N.

WANTED.—Henri Cazman's Agency. Appointments only. Letters, Lithos., Photos., &c., to 36, Park-mansions, Battersea-park, London, S.W.

WANTED.—Henri Cazman's Agency. Artistes for Best London Establishments. Nothing but the best. Nothing but the Finest.

WANTED.—Henri Cazman's Agency. Principles and Specialities for Pantomime for Best London and Provincial Theatres only.

WANTED, Henri Cazman's Agency, Novelties, Features, and Big Specialities only. For Watering Places and Seaside Towns.

WANTED.—Henri Cazman's Agency. Appointments only. Letters, lithos., photos., &c., to 36, Park-mansions, Battersea-park, London, S.W.

WANTED, Artists to please notice Change of Address, J. C. Bloom, Agent for the M.H.A.R.A., Wheatsheaf Hotel, King Edward-street, Hull. First-class Smokes, Rooms. "The Era," &c., taken.

WANTED, Artistes holding Engagements Alhambra, Belfast, to write in Fourteen Days before Opening. H. T. DOWNS, Manager.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin, All the Greatest Stars in the Profession. Acts New in Dublin for the above, the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland. Direct or through Agents. All communications to Will Sley, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester. Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester." Telephone, 09,144.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Stars in All Lines from June 13, onwards, for Ashton, Warrington, St. Helens, and Liverpool. Write or wire, F. WILLMOT, Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

THEATRE ROYAL, BURY.
WANTED, for June 20, Week, Big Star Turns. Price no Object for Suitable Act. Address, OTTO C. CULLING, Bury.

WANTED, June 13, 20, £20 to £100 Turns. Artistes free for Aberdeen, Dundee, Glasgow, and Edinburgh, 1905-6, communicate. Aytoun's Agency, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E.

WANTED, Refined Turns for Two Weeks June 20, Grand Theatre, Douglas Good Elocutionist may write. State terms in first letter, T. R. WOOD, Central Theatre, Northwich.

WANTED, a Few Good Turns for June 20, New Theatre, Brighouse; June 27, Queen's Theatre, Longton. State last appearance in above towns; also at Stoke and Hanley, with lowest terms. O'CONNOR and BRADY, Theatre Royal, Preston.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, the Greatest Top of the Bills in Existence, Turns with Drawing Powers; also Every Class of Novelty in the Business, for Towns that are not Barred by Moss and Thornton, Stoll, or Barrasford Tours.
Big Stars and Acts having a few Odd Weeks out communicate immediately, with absolute lowest, in first instance, to save time (or no notice taken), to Harry Burns, Proprietor, Harry Burns's Agency, Empress Theatre of Varieties, Hartlepool. Telephone 0,231. Telegrams, "Burns, Express."
Bookings may be had in conjunction with Grand, Stockton, and Queen's, Gateshead; Grand, Newcastle, &c. Any sum, from £5 to £150. Write it, for Three or Four Weeks. Booking 1905-1905-1906. The Biggest Shows in the business.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, Harry Burns's Harry Burns's Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agency, Empress Theatre of Varieties, Hartlepool.
Telephone, 0,231.
Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."
344, Bury New-road, Manchester.
Miss F DARLEY, Manageress, 87, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W. Continental Correspondence only. No Callers Whatsoever.
Representatives, Louis Hochschild, German Touring Agent. A. Von Pragg, Frankfort-a-Main. Louis Solomon, Madison-avenue, New York. London: Ernest Warner, 156, Stockwell-road, Brixton, S.W. Ed. Cranston, 6, Chandos-street, Covent-garden, W.C. Telephone, 5,025 Gerard.
Bookings at Every Hall of Note in England, also throughout the Continent.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, MANCHESTER.
Messrs THOMAS BARRASFORD and WILL SLEY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Star Turns and Novel Acts.
WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for Blackpool and Morecambe, Star Turns, Big Novelties, for June 27, and July, August, and September. Big Acts. Price no Object. Acrobats, Wire Acts, Trapeze, Sketches Jugglers, Dog Shows, Comedy Acts, Musical Clowns, Bar Performers, Comedy Quartette, Bicycle Troupe, and Any New Novelty. Lithos., photos, price to Will Sley, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Star Turns for Seaside and Every Hall of Note in the Provinces for Immediate Dates. Will Sley, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Star Turns, Tops of Bill, for London and Provinces, Immediate Bookings, June 13, on. Fullest particulars, including Terms, Lithos., and Full List of Bookings. Can Offer Suitable Acts, New to Australia, Twenty to Forty Weeks. Day's Variety Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C. Telephone, 6,915 Gerrard. Telegraphic Address, "Terpsichore, London."

WANTED, Acts of All Kinds for Immediate and Future Dates, for Hippodrome, Wakefield. Re-opens Aug. 1. Also Three other Halls in Yorkshire and one within easy distance of Birmingham. Nothing too Big and Price no Object for Turns with Drawing Power. All the Latest and the Best Wanted. Send full list of bookings, lithos, &c., and absolute lowest to Universal Agency, New Palace, Wakefield.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for Leeds, Manchester, Hull, Middlesbrough, Sunderland, Newcastle, Morecambe, Blackpool, Brighton, Liverpool, Grimsby, Big Specialities, Novelties, Acrobats, Musical Acts, Animal and Circus Acts. Nothing too big. Lithos and Open Time to M. Chester and Co.'s Agency, 13, Oxford-street, Manchester. Manager, Henry Kemble (late Manager, New Palace, Northampton).

WANTED, Cheap Specialities to Write me Weekly with Immediate Vacancies. Bookings this week include The Korries, James Brady, Will Saunders, Robert Grieve, Nance Harder. Address, M'ASKELL, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, First-rate Attractions, June 13 and 20 (North).
Silence in all cases a polite negative.
G. and F. PEEL, 42, Granville-house, Arundel-street, W.C.

WANTED, Powerful Variety Combinations for Three Weeks, June 27, July 4, and 11, during the Great Northern Colonial Exhibition at the Winter Gardens, Southport. Opera House closed during that time, Admission Free to Gardens. Apply, ALFRED HEMMING.

WANTED, Good Combinations, Choirs, Pictures, Dramas, Comedies, June 6 (Three or Six Nights), onwards. Wire, MANAGER, Alexandra Hall, Dovercourt.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

COLLINS' HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
COLLINS' HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Sole and Responsible Proprietor, Mr P. COLLINS.
Sole and Responsible Proprietor, Mr P. COLLINS.
The only Variety Theatre in the Potteries Open all the Year Round. Both Houses Packed to Excess Nightly with the Elite of the District. Tremendous Business. Delighted Audiences. Not Hundreds, but Thousands Turned away.
The Pre-eminently Popular Resort. The only Variety Theatre in the Potteries.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Immediately, and for Far Ahead Dates, Stars, Specialities, and Novelties, Money no Object for Value.
Read this!
Artistes in all Lines are especially reminded they can have Immediate and reasonably distant Dates. They are not asked to accept them in the next century, with the sole idea of excluding them from this district until then.
Extra Special.
No applications can be recognised unless they contain every particular, lowest terms, and when last appeared in Hanley, Longton, and Stoke.
Monday, June 6, on, Alec Hurley and Famous Coster Company, in "The Lambeth Walk;" Kitty Neville, Roland Hill, Violet Macfarlane, Danby and Danby, Bert Woodward, Prince Fee Lung, Collins' Historical and Local Animatograph, and other Artists. Magnificent Band of Sixteen Performers. Chef d'Orchestra, Fred Leake. Rehearsal Monday at 12.30.
Collins' Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent, Twice Nightly, 7.0 and 9.0. Twice Nightly, 7.0 and 9.0. The only Variety Theatre in the Potteries.
Sole and Responsible Proprietor, Mr P. Collins. Sole and Responsible Proprietor, Mr P. Collins.
General Manager, FRANK EGERTON, to whom address all communications

WANTED, for Long Run, Smart Young Comedian and Dancer, with Speciality Preferred, must be Refined, Educated, and possess Good Voice. A Good Double Turn also write in. State salary, age, photo., and fullest particulars of business, list of songs, &c. Apply, E. H. WILLIAMS, Famous Merry Men, Rhyl.

WANTED, Pierrots, for Two Troupes, near Durham, to Open, June 11. Shares. Good pianist, dresses found. FISHER, Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor, co. Durham.

WANTED, June 13, onwards, for Garden Concerts, Refined Vocalists, Quartettes and Pierrot Troupes. Terms low. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Pair of Comedians used to Pierrot Business, or Single Comedians, to open June 27, for Season if approved of; also Specialities of every Description. Letters, the PARDONS, Theatre, Middleton, Lancs.

WANTED, Good Refined Comic Singer, Al Fresco, Large Répertoire. Photo., terms, and experience. Sole permit. Address, PIERROT, 7, North Lindsay-street, Dundee, Scotland.

WANTED, First-class Al Fresco Comedian. Full particulars, lowest terms, Lee and Arden, Stanley House, Dunoon, Scotland.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Gracie Bard, Character and Coon Speciality, Requires Monday, June 6, 13, and on. This, Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool. Wire.

WANTED, by Lil Gorman, Descriptive Vocalist and Expert Dancer, a Good Agent. Usual success, Haymarket, Liverpool. 25, Clarendon-rd., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Ethel Yorke, the Charming Comedienne, at Liberty June 13, 20, 27. Sure success and draw. Wire or write, Alhambra, Sandgate.

WANTED, Known, Miss Sadie Bush, Contralto Vocalist, at Liberty June 13, 20, onwards. Wire, People's Palace, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, that Florentia Glynne has the Richest and most Highly Trained Voice on the Vaudeville Stage. Business Manager, CHARLES VALVO.

WANTED, Monday Next, and June 13, Serio, and one of the Best All-round Dancers in the Business. Wire or write, CISSIE ARRIS, P., Bridlington.

WANTED, Monday next by Marie Gerrard, Chic Comedienne, also 20th, to follow G., Clapham. First Vacant Date for Ten Months. Add., P. P., Brighton.

WANTED, by Miss Mae Alma, Soprano Vocalist, Ballad and Descriptive, Good Pianist and Accompanist, Disengaged June 6. Good offers invited. Press opinions, Photo. Address, 64, Sandrock-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement by Miss Bessie Hardman, Soprano Ballad Vocalist. Open for Piers, Pavilions, &c., June 6, onwards. 5, Hooton-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Miss Elsie Shelton, Piers, Concerts, &c. Good Refined Dancer. Can Accompany. 16, Archibald-road, Tufnell-park, N.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Burgess, Comediennes and Expert Dancers, at Lib. June 6. Wire, Empire, Greenock. Smart Dresses and Catchy Music.

WANTED, the Vincents (Maudie and Irene), June 6, 13. Operatic Scena "My Sweetheart," and Comic Opera Duologues. Wire, 36, Barker-street, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Henriette, 'Celliste-Vocalist, Vacant July, Piers, Halls, Companies, Novel Act. 39, Poynter-road Bush hill-park, Middlesex.

WANTED, by Fred Alberto, Star Character Comedian and Dancer, One Week, June 13 or 20. Address, Palace of Varieties, Derby.

WANTED, June 13, on, Cambo, Musical Monkey. Ten Instruments. Also Ven'. Show Al Fresco. 59, Urquhart-road, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, Harry Leaton, Comedian and Vocalist, Vacant Monday, also 13th, for High-class Al Fresco, Halls, &c. Wire, 12, Fountain-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Monday, June 6, by George Nixon, Original Comical Dwarf, Comedian, and Clog Dancer. Great success, Star Hall Varieties, Plymouth.

WANTED, by J. H. M'Cann, Comedian and Acrobatic Roller-Skater, Monday next and 13. Wire, Empress, Hartlepool; after Saturday, 131, Cross-lane, Salford.

WANTED, by Vosper, the Master Mimic and Necromancer, June 13 and 20. Address, Awsworth, Notts.

WANTED, June 6 and 13, by W. Salmon, Trick and Musical Cyclist. The Man of Many Wheels. Wire, Albany-terrace, Burnley; or, Stebbings.

WANTED, Known, Carl Mysto, Prince of Prison Breakers, and his wonderful Trunk Mystery, Big Act (three People), Vacant June 13. Agent, Stebbings.

WANTED, Known, The Barlocks, Kings of Handcuffs, Trunk Manipulators, Vacant June 20. 13, Hopetown-place, Zoar-street, Southwark. Wire.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Kardoc, Gaol Breaker, Handcuff and Trunk Manipulator; also Marie Ellis, Comedienne and Dancer. One or both. See card. Wire.

WANTED, Known, the Great Kyoto, Comedy Japanese Entertainer, in a New, Original, and Novel Act, "The Mysterious Japanese Box." Vacant July 11, Aug. 1, Sept. 19, '04, onward. Also Miss May Geraldine, Comedienne and Dancer. 25, Devonshire House, Bath-terrace, London, S.E.; or, Agent, E. De Vere, 72, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Monday next, June, 6 and Dates onwards, by Doddy and Belle, the Great Comedy Couple. Post-office, Chesterfield.

WANTED, June 13, for England's Greatest Comedy Act. Communicate, KEEN and WALAD, next week, Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, Known, Ryde and Beeman, Acrobatic Grotesques, Vacant June 6 and 20. Wire, Hippo., Dewsbury; after Saturday, 3, Barton-st., Pendleton.

WANTED, by Davis and Davis, Vocal Comedians, Dancers, and Speciality Artistes, June 6 and 13. Wire, Palace, Halifax.

WANTED, Known, the Three Martinettes, Knockabout Patter Comedians. Liberty June 6 and 13. Great Acts for Galas. Address, 27, Sidney-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, the Malverns, Living Marionettes; Newling Major, Ventriloquist. Two sound, laughable Acts; suitable any entertainment. Wire, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, June 13 and 20, by Darrell Trio, Refined Musical Act. This, Hippodrome, Salford; next, Metropole, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, At Liberty, Three Good Acts. Statue Act, Splendid Fit-up; Comedy Act; Singing Picture Act, with Serpentine Dance. Would join Combination; Salary or Shares. Wire or Write, BAYLEY, P.-O., Whitestakes, Preston.

WANTED, Known, R. Grieve, Ventriloquist, Success Grimsby and Derby, Vacant June 13, 20, 27. Offers invited. Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, the I. D. K. Minstrels, great success at Alexandra Palace Whit, offer of Re-engagement for August, have fortnight at end of August Vacant for Pier or Spa Pavilion, to follow Royal Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate. Also now booking Institute and Benevolent Societies' engagements for Winter season. Troupes, Six to Twenty High-class Performers. Apply, MANAGER, 185, Upland-road, East Dulwich.

WANTED, Known, E. H. Williams's Famous Rhyl Merrie Men are already the Rage of the Town. Artistes see my "Wanted" advert. The Troupe this year acknowledged to be the best ever seen in Rhyl. Record Business. My opening Concert a gigantic success. Sixth Season. Twenty-two Star Artistes. Address, E. H. WILLIAMS, Famous Merrie Men, Rhyl.

"FOR KING AND COUNTRY."
WANTED, Known, Tom Herman's Patriotic Naval and Military Spectacle concluding Palace, Portsmouth (Third Visit). Next, E., Wrexham.

"RUSSIA AND JAPAN" AND "RELIEF OF PEKIN."
WANTED, Known, the Phenomenally Successful Spectacles, Performed by 100 Local Children. Complete. Elaborate Production. Terms and Dates, J. CLARKE, Palace, Greenwich.

WANTED, Monday Next, the Levite Trio, Zoe Herbert, Ida Hetherington, and Little Levite in Comic Sketch Engagements. 103, Acre-lane, Brixton.

WANTED, Known, Re-engaged, Tower, Blackpool, July. Dates, Home or Colonies. Mr HARRY LISTON and Miss LORD LUMLEY, Egyptian Hall, W.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Great Dog Act, the Public Surpriser, the most original Dog Show in the World, Liberty June 27. Palace, Wakefield.

WANTED, Known Billy, the Most Wonderful Pony Breathing, has Few Vacancies. Wire for Monday, DE VOYE, 115, St. Paul's-road, Southsea.

WANTED, Known, Judge's Cockatoos, Vacant June 6 and 13. Apply, 6, Ashbrook-road, Upper Holloway, London, N.

WANTED, Expert Bioscope Operator for Edison Paul Pictures, must understand electricity, open immediately. Address, T. M. PAUL, 101, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Dates, for the Towerograph Animated Pictures, Rebooked at the Blackpool Tower. One Machine at Liberty Monday next. All Latest Subjects. Wire or write, O. T. ROBINSON, 27, Birley-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagements for High-class Animated Pictures. We deal only with Best and Latest Subjects. Machine and Operator always ready. Terms low. Apply, with full particulars, CINEMATOGRAPH, Dep., 29, Atlantic Novelty Co., 143, Fleet-st., London, E.C.

WANTED, Engagements for Travers' Bioscope, with Latest Films. Lime or Electric. Complete change of Films weekly. TRAVERS (the Original), 35, Hestercombe-avenue, Fulham.

WANTED, June 13 onwards, for Bioscope, Comic Pictures; also Troupe of Dogs. Share or salary. LE CLAIR, Theatre, Porth, South Wales.

WANTED, Immediately, Dates, Gascoigne's Bio-Sphere. Latest and Sunday Pictures. Machines always ready. CHAS. GASCOIGNE, Best Brand, Broad-st., Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscopes. Latest Pictures Weekly. One Show at Liberty Monday. E., Portsmouth. Films for Sale.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman (Silver King), Showman's Auctioneer and Valuer, has for Sale, by Private Treaty, everything connected with the Business. N.B.—Always open to Purchase or Engage all kinds of Novelties, Curiosities, &c., alive or dead, if suitable for Exhibition. Apply, Auction Office, Manor Farm, Dallington, Sussex.

Showmen's Fire Insurance.
WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showmen's Property Insured against Fire, on Tour or otherwise, anywhere in the United Kingdom. For particulars apply to F. F. POPE, Abingdon-on-Thames.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, Attractions, to open Monday, June 6. Wire, Carter's Waxworks, 10, Castle-place, Belfast.

WANTED, Freaks and Quick-showing Novelties for June 6 and future Dates, or will Let Shop for One Month or more. Rent, £5 weekly. Best position in Birmingham Established Fourteen Years with James's Waxwork. 15½ High-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, June 6, onwards. Send Vacant Dates, price, Holt's Waxworks and Novelty Exhibition, Stonehouse, Plymouth.

WANTED, Freaks and Quick-showing Novelties of every Description, to follow Captain Medecia's Educated Seals and Sea Lions. Must be Good and have Good Window Flash. NELLIE SUNDERLAND, Wonderland, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Novelties and Side Shows, for Exhibition, from July 2 to 9 inclusive. Particulars and terms to Mr ALEX. M'EWAN, Assembly Rooms, Cork.

WANTED, Sensational Side Shows and Novelties of all descriptions. Would purchase anything good. STUMCKE, Electric T., Crystal Palace.

WANTED, Lady Palmist, Scientific Spiritualist preferred. Shares. Last Palmist Three Years. Address, Mrs JAMES, 15½, High-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, Palmist, for Madame Paulines No. 5 Famous Continental Show, and also at 35, Long-row, Nottingham. Apply, MANAGER 91, Nethergate, Dundee.

WANTED, Useful Clowns for Parading, those that do acts preferred, Cornet and Euphonium. Geo. Cross write. DENNIS, Circus, Prescot, Lancs.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a Complete
LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES in JUNE, 1904
COPYRIGHT TO "THE ERA."

June 4. Normanton
June 4. Prescot
June 4. Snows Hills
June 7. Southreppe
June 11. Cranbrooke
June 13. Tetney
June 13. Thorne (Yorks).
June 15. Lambert Castle (Dorset).
June 16. Kidderminster
June 16. Menston
June 18. Dore and Totley
June 18. Mexborough
June 18. Staveley
June 20. Cinderford
June 20. Coleford
June 22. Selby
June 23. Marbury Park
June 23. Shipton-on-Stour
June 24. Andover
June 24. Bromegrove
June 24. Cambridge
June 24. Farnham
June 24. St. Just
June 25 Brampton
June 25. Bridgwater
June 25. Burslem
June 25. Coal Aston
June 25. Dronfield
June 25. Duckmanton
June 25. Eckington
June 25. Edensor
June 25. Elmton
June 25. Halifax
June 25. Handley
June 25. Norbrigge
June 25 Penistone
June 27. Droitwich
June 27. Feckenham
June 27. Inkberrow
June 28. Folkestone
June 29. Fareham
June 30. Dereham
June 30. Leigh

IN SCOTLAND.

June 16. Larg
June 24. Fraserburgh

IN WALES.

June 4. Porth
June 11. Ton-y-Pandy
June 14. Ferndale
June 18. Llandovery
June 18. Usk
June 23. Brynmawr
June 24. Lydney

AGRICULTURAL SHOWS IN JUNE.

June 4. Colne
June 4. Batley
June 6. Barton-on-Humber
June 7. Guildford
June 9. Edinburgh
June 9. Wellingborough
June 10. Stirling
June 10. Llangefni
June 10. Richmond(Surrey)
June 11. Cassett
June 14. Ross
June 15. Thorne
June 15. East Dereham
June 15. Footstown
June 18. Cupar
June 21. Park Royal
June 24. Ripon
June 25. Keighley
June 25. Selby
June 28. Londonderry
June 29. Doncaster
June 30. Leicester

HORSE AND CATTLE FAIRS.

June 4. Buckingham
June 6. Aberystwith
June 6. Stamford
June 7. Rutherglen
June 7. Appleby
June 10. Howes
June 13. Lisburn
June 13. Newcastle-under-Lyme
June 13. Boroughbridge
June 14. Cavan
June 14. Dundalk
June 17. Taunton
June 18. Aylesbury
June 20. Northampton
June 21. Abergavenny
June 24. Appledore
June 24. Yeovil
June 27. Ballyclare
June 28. Higham Ferrers
June 28. Spalding
June 29. Criccieth
June 29. Cambourne
June 29. Brockley
June 30. Antrim

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
One
One
One
One
or
or
Two
Two
Two
Two
Tattooed Ladies
Tattooed Ladies
Tattooed Ladies
Tattooed Ladies
for
a
Round
Trip
to
France.

Good Wages.

Apply
to
the American Living Novelty,
Director F. GRISSLER,
17, Place Carrière,
Nancy, France.

WANTED, Good Auctioneer, for Auction Mart. Good wage to a right man.
HOLDEN, 25, Ulster-street, Burnley.

WANTED, for Taylor's Electrograph, Good Doorsman and Describer. Young Man, used to Fair Business Good Shop all year round to suitable person. People who do not understand the business please save stamps. Taylor's Electrograph, White Swan Field, Shefford, Beds, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

WANTED, First-class Doorsman. One used to Fair Business. Good shop for steady man. Join at once. BIRCH, Post-office, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Known, Carl Harmon's Royal Punch and Judy and Marionettes, also Bioscope, open for Engagements. 101A, Penwith-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Professor Carl Whyte, Hypnotist, Conjuring, Knife Throwing, Liberty Monday. Paintings, Lithos. Wire (salary or shares), Exhibition, Wote-street, Basingstoke, Hampshire.

WANTED, Known, Ronah, the Well-known London Palmist, Clairvoyant, can Accept Summer Engagement. 9, Winton-terrace, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Situation with Firm or Travelling Auctioneer, to learn Auctioneering Business. Address, Box 7,924, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Rifle-range Proprietors to Note,
Firework Cartridges.
Guns Repaired Quickly and Cheaply.
22a. B.B. Caps, Card Targets,
Glass Bottles and Globes,
Celluloid Balls for Water Fountains.
A Few Second-hand Winchester and Colt Repeaters.
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EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Marie Loftus, Zaro and Arno, James Stewart, Alma Mary, Alexandre and Hughes, Mabel La Blanche, Lee and Kingston, Geraldo, New York Nippers, Victoria Monks, W. F. Frame.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Harry Lauder, Maud Venn, Little Fred, Henry Taylor Trio, Dion Wade, Barowsky Trio, Ray Wallace, Barton and Ashley, Hill and Whittaker, R. W. Bentley, Geo. Barron, Happy Fanny Fields.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Geo. Gray and Co. in "The Fighting Parson," Elsie Robey, Gladys Mavius, Frank Sylvo, Rich and Rich, Franco Piper, Alexandra Dagmar, Les Durvals, Hamilton Hill, J. A. Wilson, Nellie Stratton, Oswald Sisters, Wilkie Bard.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Bransby Williams, Gallando, Dan Crawley, Lilian Bishop, Max Renard's Dogs, Alice Lloyd, Wilhelmina Quartette, Frank Seeley, Mr and Mrs Findon, Norman French, M'Naughtons.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Two Performances Nightly, at 6·50 and 9·0.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Geo. Mozart, Florence Deighton, the Jagos, James H. Jee, Michael Nolan, Bros. Egbert, Adonis Trio, Mark Melford, Edwin Boyde, Clown Ferreros, Lelia Roze.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
R. G. Knowles, Marie Sinnett, Bert Brantford, Viviana, Cullen and Carthy, Alexandra Edwin, Selkirk's Sketch, Captain Slingsby, Three Ramoniers, Mdlle. Lagreze.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for
E. J. Sheldon, Francis and Melli, Roze and Calvert, Katie Butler, Henry Lee, Lind, Nellie Vanderbilt, American Comedy Four, Rosie Lloyd, Newhouse and Ward, New Macs, Harry Ford.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Resident Director, Mr R. THORNTON.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Woodward's Seals, Marion Scott, Belle Harcourt, La Berat, Harry Freeman, Ethel Ra Leslie, Norman Leonard Trio, Jack Charman, Starr and Leslie, Bros. Redmond, Trentanovi Sisters, Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal, at 1·30 o'clock, for
Carl Hertz, Sisters Lunelle, Edwin Barwick, Pueblo Bros., Maningos, Dan Thomas, Orpheus, Little Zola, W. C. Fields, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Diane De Fontenoy, J. W. Rowley, Ella Dean, Three Jurgens, Gintaro, the Eight of Hearts, Bennett and Martell, Clemart, Bioscope, George Gilbey.

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EMPIRE THEATRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Poluski Bros., Mark Sheridan, Stelling and Revell, Lyons Trio, Griff, Will Johnson, Sisters Govell, Cabaret's Dogs, Daisy Martell.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Little Tich, Vasco, Burns and Evans, Lew Wells, Slade Murray, Alexandre and Bert'e, Frank Lynne, Chas. F. Best, Georgina Leonard.

EMPIRE THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Austin Rudd, Spry and Austin, Foreman and Fannan, May Henderson, Miles-Stavordale Quintet, the Swickards, the Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Sig. and Madame Borelli, Bioscope, the Mayvilles, Vi Holmes.

NEW PALACE THEATRE, BORDESLEY.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Tom Hearn, Madge May, Gertrella, Little Ganty, Abel and Welsh, Automatos, Caselli and James, Three Sisters Jonghmans, Louise Willis, Wille Brothers.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·50 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Karno's "Saturday to Monday," Brothers Griffiths, Lucy Clarke, Damm Brothers, Werner-Amoros Troupe, Les Voces, Mark Anthony, Tiny Arnold.

EMPIRE, NEW-CROSS, LONDON, S.E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·40 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Mills and Rawlins, Will Evans, Mendel, Arthur Reece, Charles Prelle, Sisters O'Meers, Bioscope, Earle and Earle, Allis and Cassati, Charles Lilburn, Amy Sullivan.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD, LONDON, E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·45 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
George Lashwood, Frank and Jen Latona, Mannings' Entertainers, the Imperial Quartette, Bioscope, the Glenroy Troupe, Yvette's Hippodrome, Billy Farrell, Chris Richards, the Sakers.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:—

EMPIRE PALACE, HACKNEY.
Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Chirgwin, the Follies, Belle Davis, Bros. Phillipi, Brown and Kelly, Ada Cerito, Abdy's Circus, Marvelle's Birds, the Leonards, Sisters Pine, E. W. Selman.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE, SHEPHERD'S-BUSH.
Managing-Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Peggy Pryde, Charles Morritt, Ginnett's Water Panto., George Formby, Marguerite and Hanley, Bros. Edgar, the Hulines, Sisters Sprightly, Bioscope, the Phydoras, George Newburn.

PALACE THEATRE, LEICESTER.
Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for
Paul Cinquevalli, Pat Rafferty, Bros. Leslie, Howard and St. Clair, Will English, Frank Coyne, The Ferganas, Sibb and Sibb, May Milburn, Carrie Joy.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Boswell's Circus, Will Musgrave, Wm. Lee and Company, Edith Courtney, George Ripon, Jessie Burnett, Four Elysians, J. W. Rickaby, Syd May.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Marie Kendall, Guy Ryder, Sisters Dacre, Steve M'Carthy, Di Pace Brothers, Jessie Albini, Ross and Grayson.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, Mr R. THORNTON.
Rehearsal at 2·0 o'clock for
The Boissetts, Maud Ross, Northern Troupe, Will Mitcham, Singing Pit Boy, Flo D'Orville, Harry Dent, Lawrence Barclay, Fred W. Millis and Fanny.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and specimens of Pictorials for Leicester, Cardiff, Swansea, Newport, Nottingham, Holloway, Stratford, New-cross, Hackney, and Shepherd's-bush must be sent to Mr OSWALD STOLL, Empire, Cardiff; and for the other Theatres to Mr FRANK ALLEN, the London Hippodrome, London, W.C., Two Weeks before Opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the Stage-Manager of each Theatre One Week previous to Opening, and Assignments for same must be produced at Rehearsal.

Artists will clearly understand that their Business must be Free from all Vulgarity.

N.B.—Silence in every case a Polite Negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Telegraphic address, "Twigsome, London." National Telephone, 5,526 Gerrard.

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All Artistes Engaged will kindly note that the Entertainment will, in all probability, be changed to Two Houses Nightly, due notice of which will be given.

CALL for Monday, June 6, 1904:—
Fred Karno's Speechless Comedians, "Early Birds;" Kisbey, Amy Russell, Charles Mildare, Arthur Gilbert, Drew and Alders, Chas. Pastor, Palace Pictures, Leo Dryden.

O'CONNOR AND BRADY'S
No. 1 VAUDEVILLE CO.
Monday, June 6, Rehearse 1·0 o'clock,
THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
Gertie Gitana, the M'Kays, Wiser, Marie Riviere, Animated Pictures, Lillian Sivado, Gus Balsinger, the Dunlops, Beattie Bloom, Henri Sardou.
O'CONNOR and BRADY.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
TIVOLI and QUEEN'S THEATRES, GLASGOW, having reverted back to the One-House System, all Artistes holding Contracts must work both, One Turn each Theatre. We provide Brougham, and move all Luggage.
Both Theatres Closed.
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BARNEY ARMSTRONG,
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ARTISTES (AND THEIR AGENTS) HOLDING OR SEEKING ENGAGEMENTS AT

THE OXFORD,
OXFORD-STREET, W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Vesta Tilley, Yukio Tani, Clark and Hamilton, Ernest Shand, Vesta Victoria, Joe O'Gorman, Boyd and Gillain, Harry Pleon, Newsboys Quintette, Geo. Brooks, Maggie Walsh, Abdullah Arabs, Florence Esdaile, Carrie Laurie, Tom Leamore, Jake Friedman, Eileen Douglas, Arthur Rigby and Co., Edie King, Alf Gibson, Nat Travers.
Manager, ALBERT GILMER.

THE TIVOLI,
STRAND, W.C.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Marie Lloyd, Geo. Robey, Vesta Tilley, May Yohe, T. E. Dunville, Ernest Shand, Maud Esmond, Jake Friedman, Tom Leamore, Carrie Laurie, John Ford, Smith and Doreto, Jack Camp, Gus Elen, Vesta Victoria, Binns and Binns.

THE CANTERBURY,
WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 11·0 o'clock.
Fred Karno's Company, in New and Original Burlesque entitled "The Mumming Birds;"
Kate Carney will (by special desire) revive, for Six Nights only, "Eliza Johnson;" Special Competition on Friday Night; Jessie Preston, Joe O'Gorman, Flo Gallimore, Dutch Daly, Elsa Joel, Mezzetti and Mora, Leo Tell, Frank and Free, Fred Elton, Williams and Brown, Woodhouse and Wells; Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, showing the Latest Russo-Jap War Pictures; Tom Leamore, Clark and Hamilton.
Manager, FRED MILLER.

PARAGON,
MILE-END-ROAD, E.
Artistes are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 3·0 o'clock.
May Yohe, in New Song-Scena, Assisted by Chorus of Eight Ladies. Special Scenery and Effects.
M'Connell Trio, G. H. Elliott, Dutch Daly, Lily Langtry, Mueller and Coyne, Jimson's Circus, Regan and Ryan, Virto, Jake Friedman, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Terry and Lambert, Sisters Caselli, M. Newell, Stewart and Morgan, Harry Pleon and Jack Collinson and Co., in New Production entitled "At Large."
Manager, CHARLES BRECHAM.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE.
LONDON-ROAD, S.E.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Edward Ranier and Co., Michel and Polo, Tom Stuart, Edie King, The Wedburns, Cora Caselli, George Reeves, The Two Graces, A. P. Boswell, Mountford and Walsh.
Manager, FRANK WEEKS.

EUSTON,
EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
T. E. Dunville, Clark and Hamilton, Terry and Lambert, R. H. Douglas, Rezene and Robini, Amy Clevere, Conway and Leland, Kitty Wager, Stavordale Quintette, Alf Gibson.
Manager, FRED M'AVOY.

THE EMPRESS,
BRIXTON-ROAD, S.W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
The Great Georg Lurich, the Mightiest Man on Earth; Will Haines, Dot Hardy, Amba Austs, Larry Lewis, Bitchie Duo, Cline and Clark, Lilian Doreen, Rumbo Austin and Nippers, Will Dalton, Florence Esdaile, May Belfort and Full Chorus, Payne's Little Vagabonds, The Hartley Wonders, Tom Woottwell, Stavordale Quintette.
Manager, NELSON FRANCIS.

THE ROYAL,
HOLBORN.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Mondays, at 1·0 o'clock.
The Bros. Horne, Harry Pleon, James Fawn, W. Emerson, Gracie Floyde, Sisters Caselli, De Vere and Kenwick, Dezmonti and Mora, Musical Jees, The Two Whites.
Manager, H. KETTERMAN.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE,
UPPER-STREET, ISLINGTON, N.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Georg Lurich, Wrestler and Streng Man; Raymond's Pictures, F. Herbert, Benson and Geoffrey, J. W. Hall, Sam Mayo, Missouris, Sisters Silcott, Gipsy Woolf, James Fawn.
Manager, W. SPEARMAN.

DUCHESS PALACE,
HIGH-ROAD, BALHAM.
Rehearsals on Monday at 1·30 o'clock.
Brown and Le Clerq, "Black Justice;" Raymond's Pictures, E. Lane, Mr and Mrs Benn, H. Bancroft, American Idols, Jack Camp, Dinah Morris, H. Bedford, The Zaros.
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Band Rehearsal, which all Artistes must attend, on Mondays, at 3·0 o'clock.
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THE CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
The Charming Musical Production, "Hiawatha;" George Ridgwell, May Gurney and Chorus, Brown, Le Clerq, and Co., Daisy Mayer, Henry Drew, Ella Retford, Phil Herman, The Lannons, Kittie Bell, H. Martell, and Kelly and Ashby.
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CALLS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 6, 1904.

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HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Six Brothers Luck ("Hotel Grande"), Fred Curran, Musical Silvo, Bob Hutt, Marguerite Broadfoote, Rex Fox, Nelly Vonare, Hetty King, Morny Cash, Golden Trio, Animated Pictures, Martinoz, La and Do.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
George Leyton, Nora Emerald, Max Trevally, Harley, Howard and Collinson, Walton and Lester, Imperial Boys' Orchestra, the Delbosqs, Vernon Troupe, Meier and Mora, Harry Barker, Animated Pictures, Donaldson Brothers and Ardel.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Harvey Boys, F. V. Sinclair, Jack and Evelyn, Will Godwin, De Henau and Aladina, Staig's Motor, Patty Franks, Morcaschani, Pictures.

HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
Three Seldoms, Ada Twibell, Lily Flexmore, Ted Young, Lall Cliff, Francois Rothig, Paulton and Dooley, Three Laurels, The Mackweys, Mdlle. Florizell, Haig and Novel, Animated Pictures, Agnes Mahr.

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EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BRISTOL.
Seven Picchianis, Lily Sharp, Ernie Myers, Lily Lonsdale, Mdlle. Lilian, Brothers Lang, Morton Trio, Emma Don and Company, Shawlene, T. B. Fayme, Mary M'Glenn, Animated Pictures, the Meers.

REGENT, SALFORD.
Jacques Inaudi, Maud Needham, Elsie Rubina, Mons. Henri, Three Zaracs, Kioto, the Ladderites, Jack Pleasants, Lizzette Troupe, Animated Pictures, Downes and Langford.

HIPPODROME, ST. HELENS.
Gerald's Lions, Alice Golding, Sisters Volbecque, Barnard's Mannikins, Ottoway Trio, Onda and Artell, Charles Howard, Bioscope, Witty Walton.

LYRIC, LIVERPOOL.
Verno and Voyce, Sam Dalton, Lil Trevelly, W. H. Atkinson, Brindall and Cooper, Bioscope, Three Henriques, Bock Pylades, Steens, the Waldrons.

HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.
Salmo, A. G. Spry, Sousloffs, Segomer, Smith and Johnson, Ernesto, A. Gill, Violas, Le Roy, Talma and Bosco, Pictures.

BRITANNIA, HOXTON, N.
Dr. Bodie, Amy Anderson and Co., Johnny Worman, Madge Daly, Lena Penrise, Lily Black, Lomas, Pictures, Dessa and Lovett, Fred Walker.

ALHAMBRA, HULL.
Finglas, F. O'Connor, the Wellands, Charles Bignell, Billy Richardson, Clarke's Nippers, Pictures.

ALHAMBRA, PARIS.
"Harvest Home," Les Petites Saxe, Gracie Moore, Les Huit Snowdrops, Mdlle. Martha, Lowell and Lowell, Sam Elton, Les Frères Parcolis, Anna Thibaud, Florence & Lilian, Claire Beasy, Bioscope, Four Cliftons.

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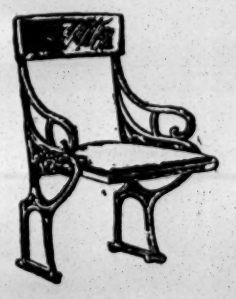

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Royalty Theatre, W.

MR. WALTER EDWIN.
Engaged by Miss Julia Neilson and Mr Fred Terry for Autum Tour of "Sunday." A.A.

MR. RICHARD FIELDING.
Monday,
Opera House, Cork.

MR. ARTHUR FITZGERALD,
Arthurian Company of Players,
Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen.

MR HUGH FLEMING, Business-Manager, Miss Lucy Wilson and Mr Gordon Bailey's Tour. Opera House, Weston-super-Mare.

MR. WOLSTON FOSTER,
Heavy Lead, "The Scarlet Woman," and Levison, in "East Lynne." June 13, Grand Theatre, Hull.

MR. FRANK H. FRANCE
Disengaged.
Address, 39, Morval-road, Effra-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES FRANMORE
Disengaged June 20 for a Few Weeks.
Address, Borough Theatre, Stratford, E.

MR. W. H. GARBOIS
as Levison, Tyson, &c.
Theatre, Maesteg, South Wales.

MR. W. V. GARROD at Liberty 25th inst. for a Few Weeks. Autumn Settled Jacob M'Closky, "The Octoroon." T. R., Edmonton, N.

MR. and MRS. WILLIE GARVEY
(Kitty Jones),
Theatre Royal, Whitehaven.

MR JAMES GELDERD,
"The Edge of the Storm."
Duke of York's Theatre, W.C.

MR. HENRY GEORGE,
Humphrey Chetham, in "Old Manchester."
Disengaged Autumn. Letters, Queen's T., Manchester.

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County Theatre, Reading.

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Letters, 10, King-street, W.C.

MR. DOUGLAS GORDON.
Address,
Criterion Theatre, W.

MR. A. CONEYBEARE GOUGH,
Dolly, in "Betsy;" Darbey, in "Dandy Dick."
Opera House, Blackpool Disengaged June 26.

MR. J. LYNWARD GRAHAME,
Capt. Pearson and Locksley, "The World"
Arthurian Company. Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen.

MR. HERBERT GREVILLE.
Address,
10, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

MR. H. NAYLOR GRIMSON,
Juveniles, Heavies, &c.
Address, Theatre Royal, York.

MR. FRED GROVE,
Eccles, Prince Perovski, Beau Farintosh.
Grand, Southampton. Disengaged June 20.

MR. LAWRENCE GROVE.
Mr Mouillot's Répertoire Co., "Caste," "School," and "Ours." This and next, G T., Southampton. Dis. June 20.

MR. and MRS. VAL GULLY
(Miss Pollie Denville) Disengaged. Wire, To-day, Pier, Southend. Next, Care of "The Era" Office.

MR. EDMUND GWENN,
In Australia until June. Address, care of J. C. Williamson, Esq, Her Majesty's Theatre, Melbourne.

MR. CLARENCE HAGUE,
"Her Forbidden Marriage" Tour, Original Part. Disengaged June 27. Address, Grand Theatre, Fulham.

MR. CHARLES HALLING,
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Stock Season, Theatre Royal, Edmonton, N.

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MR. and MRS. CHAS. HARRINGTON,
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Theatre Royal, Hanley.

MR. CYRIL HARRISON
Major Tarver, "Dandy Dick."
At Liberty Autumn Opera House, Blackpool.

MR. FRANCIS HAWLEY,
Col Shendryn, "Ours;" Dr Sutcliffe, "School."
Grand Theatre, Southampton. Disengaged June 20.

MR. JOHN S. HAYDON
Disengaged June 18. Strong Character Parts.
June 13, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

MR. and MRS. T. P. HAYNES
(Miss Rosie Lewis),
Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham-junction.

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56, Ashlone-road, Putney, S.W.

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Juvenile Lead. Autumn arrangements complete.
June 13, Theatre Royal, Barnsley.

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(Madge Langton), Lord Percy, in "Morocco Bound."
Disengaged Autumn. June 13, King's T., Walthamstow.

MR. HENRY HERNE,
Rev. Philip Carton, "Between Two Women."
June 13, Broadway Theatre, Deptford, S.E.

MR. DALZIEL HERON.
Address,
Royalty Theatre.

MR. FRANK HILL
Disengaged for Autumn.
Care of Mrs Callan, 67, Seagate, Dundee.

MR. A. T. HILTON
Disengaged. Old Men, &c.
Address, 31, Crowndale-road, N.W.

MR. HALLIWELL HOBBES
at Liberty for Special Weeks. Rejoins Miss Ellen Terry in August. Enniscoffy, Stratford-on-Avon.

MR. BALIOL HOLLOWAY,
Dr. Caius, Clarence and Richmond, Adam, M. Antony, Laertes, Beauseant, &c. Grand Theatre, Nelson.

MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD, Engaged for Stage Society's next Production. Otherwise, Dis. for the present. 86, The Drive, Fulham-park-gardens, S.W.

MR WALTER W. HOOK,
1,121st Consecutive Show New Century Pictures.
Ninth week, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

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Business-Manager, "Rogues and Vagabonds."
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MR. GEORGE HOWARD,
Engaged to Understudy Mr Terry,
Terry's Theatre.

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Actors' Association.

MR. CHARLES HOWITT,
concluded with Mr Tree's "Eternal City" Co. Dis. for Summer and Autumn. 88, Brockley-road, New-cross.

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Juveniles and Light Comedy. Brentwood, Hendon, N.W.

MR. A. B. IMESON
Disengaged June 13.
A.A., 10, King-street, W.C.

MR. FRED INWOOD
Disengaged.
Shirley, Coventry-park, Streatham, S.W.

MR. and MRS. FREDERIC JACQUES
(Miss Minnie Rayner), Nathalie and Joly, Mrs Lewis Waller's "Zaza" Co. June 13. T. R., Aldershot.

MR. and MRS. S. MAJOR JONES,
with Mr Leonard Rayne's Company.
Opera House, Cape Town.

MR. T. ARTHUR JONES,
Touring "Life's Sweetest Sins" and "The Girl of My Heart." Perm., 26, Wightman-road, Finsbury-park, N.

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MR. F. JOYNSEN-POWELL
at Liberty for Autumn.
49, Waldemar-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

MR. WHITFORD KANE
Disengaged June 20 for a Few Weeks.
Address, Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

MR. OGILVY KEITH.
Address,
15, Dublin-street, Edinburgh.

MR. C. B. KESTON
at Liberty.
2, Balmoral-villas, St. Swithin's-road, Bournemouth.

MR. CLAUDE KING
Disengaged for Summer and Autumn.
16, Pembury-road, Clapton, N.E.

MR. CECIL KLEIN
Disengaged. Offers invited.
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MR. PAIGE LAWRENCE, Engaged by W. Melville, Esq., Juvenile Lead, "Her Second Time on Earth." June 13, B. T., Stratford.

MR. EDMUND LEA,
as Cascart, in "Zaza."
13, Aldershot; 20, Folkestone.

MR. ALFRED LESTER,
as Myles, "Colleen Bawn." T. R., Dover, Stock.
T. R., Cardiff, Stock Season, June 27.

MR. D. LEWIN-MANNERING
Producing and Leading Parts in Répertoire of Modern Plays. June 13, Star T., Swansea, One Week.

MR. HAROLD B. LEWIS.
June 13.
Theatre Royal, Stockton.

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MR. PERCY MARMONT, Bamfield, in "Sunlight and Shadow;" Gilbert Vaughan, in "Called Back." June 13, Star Theatre, Swansea.

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Juve., Heavies, and Character. Autumn settled.
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Carl, Otto, Schwenk.
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Elephant and Castle Theatre S.E.

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Grand Theatre, Woolwich.

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Own Stock Season.
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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.

NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Z. Andrews.—Mr Charles March and company are paying a very welcome visit here with *The Priest of the Temple*. Mr Ronald Bayne in the character of Decus Fronto gives an admirable performance. Mr Edwin Lever is in every way excellent as Appius Herdonius; as Valerius Mr Charles March scores a big success. Mr Stanley May puts in much good work as Hermanus; an altogether praiseworthy Polita is Miss Evelyn Hope, an emotional actress of much ability; and Miss Marie North is a charming Præstantia. Other parts are in the hands of Messrs W. Clarke, W. Fitzroy Temple, John Simpson, Whit Rogerson, Alf Lockhart, Henry Oakley, R. Tyson, Arthur Senate, and Wilton Cross. The play is mounted in a most artistic manner.

ABERDEEN.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore; Acting-Manager, Mr H. C. Cavanah.—The stirring Drury-lane drama, *Cheer, Boys, Cheer*, which is stated to have been written round the last incident in the life of a distinguished north-country soldier, Major Allan Wilson, is played this week by the Arthurian company to good audiences. The various tableaux are very effective, and the acting is no less satisfactory. The leading parts are taken by Mr Cory Thomas, Miss Cecil Cromwell, Miss Laura Hansen, Mr Arthur Royston, Mr Frank Hill, Miss Alice Lindsay Crawford, Miss Nellie Sheffield, Mr J. T. Macmillan, and Mr Poole, who all do their work admirably. The lighter incidents in the play are productive of much amusement.

ACCRINGTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Barnes.—On Monday *The Cotton Spinner* paid a return visit with an excellent cast. Mr John S. Haydon as John Prescott gives an artistic performance; Mr Vivian Edmonds must be complimented on his interpretation of Arthur Northbury; Mr Ernest A. Douglas submits a really clever performance of Lord Northbury; Mr Aylmer J. Williams cleverly depicts Major Stratton; and Mr John B. Shinton is good as Foster Cunningham. Miss Mary Austin is an artistic Mary Prescott; Miss Violet Clayton is responsible for a creditable performance; and Miss Florence M. Thorne is an ideal Lady Charlotte Needie.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Fairbairn.—Miss Frances Wolviston's company, under the direction of Mr Arthur Leigh, is here this week with the ever-popular stage version of Mrs Wood's novel "East Lynne." Miss Wolviston's Lady Isabel arrests attention by a calm and dignified demeanour and a clear enunciation; Mr Arthur Leigh is gentlemanly as Carlyle; and Mr Arthur Pringle exhibits just the amount of heartlessness and cunning needed for Francis Levison. Mr W. Mathews, Mr W. Dunlop, and Mr Jno. Phipps are satisfactory exponents of Justice Hare, Richard Hare, and Lawyer Dill. Mr Groves Watson as the policeman, Bullock, is responsible for a good deal of humour; while Miss Nora Wynne as Barbara, Miss Kate O'Neil as Cornelia, Miss Nita Rae as Joyce, Miss Chrissie Belton as Suzanne, and Miss Nelly Webbe as Wilson are each admirably fitted for the characters they represent. Little Christobel and Little Mabel Quinton are admirable as the Carlyle children.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmott.—Heading the week's bill here are those amusing artistes Happy Little Japs. Their sensational "Slide for Life" is a daring and wonderful act. Mr Joe Huda gives a humorous exposition of the sable minstrelsy, and sings some comic ditties; the Leggetts give a good turn, their comedy sketch *Maid of Athens* creating much laughter; the Cecils are versatile vocalists and dancers; Mr Sam Shipley is a quaint character comedian; Beatie Worth, pleasing burlesque lady, sings some charming songs; the Two Falcons give a clever comedy acrobatic act; the Hippo-Bioscope projects some good pictures of an eviction, the characters being taken by the well-known comedians, Messrs Cullen and Carthy, Tony and Rich, Morny Cash, Bob King, Percy Hague, Joe M'Grath, and the Freans.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. C. Mitchell. On Monday a romantic musical drama, *What a Woman Did*, was presented here by Mr William A. Armour's company. Mr Armour himself gives a fine rendering of Conrad De L'Orme. The Marquis is ably embodied by Mr Frank Adair, and Piton, the Hunchback, is safe in Mr Owen Edwin's hands. Miss Dora Price plays sympathetically and touchingly the difficult part of Elise De L'Orme. La Papillon has Miss Louise Cove for an exponent. Mr Will Simpson as Fritz, Mr Fred Danvers as Perfect Peter Pippin, Miss Norah Waylett as Nannette, and Fanchon, Miss Tina Shaw, supply the humour very successfully. There are several capital specialities introduced.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr George Stone.—Mr T. Morton Powell's company in *Greed of Gold* is here. Mr Murray York plays the villain, Harry Hood, with consummate skill, and Mr Wilson Summers enacts the part of Arthur Erroll with marked success. The part of Cul Snig is amusingly played by Mr Walter Cameron, and Mr Tom Breen is also responsible for much laughter as Conn Creamer. Tom Welstead is well done by Mr B. Fox, and Mr T. G. Warry is successful as Mr Brightson, K.C. The Dora of Miss Edith Wallis is a beautiful impersonation; Miss Grace St. John is an effective and pleasing Mrs Mary Maxwell; Miss Winnie Donovan a vivacious Patty Mayfield; and Miss Florrie Woods a pleasing Cecil.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr Tom Whiting.—Arthur Lennard tops the bill here this week, and scores a decided success; Harrigan and Holt give highly amusing songs; Henry Moore's impersonations are excellent; Carlotta gives a clever juggling act; Leslie H. Murray is a very good turn, with his disappearing watch and card tricks; Miss Lizzie Fletcher quite captivates the audience with her singing; Miss Georgie May sings her songs in a charming manner; and Alf. Brooks is quite a success with his catchy songs.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr Lewis A. Long.—Mr John Leopold's company is paying another visit with *Frivolity*. The famous Leopold Troupe continue to do astounding acrobatic feats with apparent ease, and their efforts throughout the piece are received with much laughter and applause. Several clever people assist in keeping the fun going, including Mr John Gerant, in his old part of Oliver Buckwheat, Mr Wilfred Vaughan as the excitable Jules Vermiglio, and Mr Bert Lloyd as his "idiot" son Samuel. Miss Amy Hall is well suited to the part of Lucy Buckwheat, her song and dance with Mr John Leopold, jun., in the second act securing a well-deserved encore. Madame Cobweb finds in Miss Ruby Wyndham a pleasing representative. The rest all fill their parts creditably.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—The first week of Mr Frank Macnaghten's open-air vaudeville entertainment has been attended with complete success, the weather being fine and the attendance most encouraging. Mr Nelson Hardy, the accomplished ventriloquist, heads the artistes engaged, and his efforts to amuse are duly recognised by the applause he receives. The mimicry of Mr Harry Vincent is really excellent, and he has become a great favourite. Miss Gertrude Pryce-Crewe, who has formerly won local laurels, sings several ballads with her customary success. The humorous songs of Mr Harry Huntley are smartly rendered and well received. Mr Bert Meredith, banjo soloist, holds his own in obtaining the good graces of the audience. The arrangements are admirably carried out by Mr W. Trussell, the resident-manager for Mr Frank Macnaghten.

BELFAST.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr John A. Walker.—A packed house on Monday greeted with great enthusiasm the accomplished coon delineator, Mr Eugene Stratton, whose success was emphatic, encores being persistent. Mr Billy Howard and Miss Kathleen Harris appear to advantage in their comedy act *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*, the dancing of Miss Harris creating quite a furore. Miss Rita Resdan is a clever male impersonator. The sweet tenor vocalism of Mr E. J. Rickards delights all, and Mr Ryder Slone, a comedian of refreshing style, is extremely well received. Much amusement is created by the Cranks in their comedy cycling act, and the Wartenberg Brothers supply something new in their acrobatic act. Mr George Edney, a capital comedian, completes the company.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brock.—Miss Marie Kendall tops the bill here this week, and this accomplished comedienne renders several catchy songs in her own fascinating style. Ross and Grayson create roars of laughter with their comedy act, "Professor and Pupil." Mr Ross plays several items on the pianoforte with remarkable skill. Miss Jessie Albini, a dainty comedienne, sings in vivacious style, and the wonderful mandoline playing of the experts, De Pace Bros., has evoked the loudest enthusiasm. Mr Guy Ryder, the boy whistler, furnishes a capital performance, and also appearing are the charming Sisters Dacre, Steve M'Carthy, eccentric comedian, and an exceedingly droll comedy juggler, Mr Carl Howard.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—The Mysterious Lilith is the star here, and this bewildering illusion, which astonishes all, has been enthusiastically received. Chinko renews his success in this city his juggling feats, especially those with billiard balls, astonishing all. Miss Lilian Warren is a sweet balladist, her illustrated songs affording much pleasure. The gymnastic feats of the Saletos create quite a sensation; and Mr Fred Harcourt submits an extraordinary performance with cards, &c. Ellie and Edgar appear in their tight-wire performance, which is not only novel, but very smart. The Brooklands, comediennes and dancers, are clever, and also appearing with success are Rita and Roma, vaudeville artists; Miss Lily Foy, comedienne; and Harry Walker, comedian.

BILSTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—Arrangements between Mr Battersby and Mr Matthews Monck have been made here for the trial of a short season with a stock company. The plays already named are *L'Assommoir; or, the Effects of Drink*, *The Octoroon*, and *Robert Macaire*. The first-named was performed on Monday and following evenings with much acceptance, Mr Monck himself effectively portraying Gouget. Miss Ada Oakley, Miss Rose Maitland, and Mr James Spencer Thacker gave capital impersonations of Gervaise, Virginie, and Coupeau respectively. Mr Philip Beck was good as Lantier, and the comedy element was well sustained by Mr Victor Mason and Miss Marie Pascoe.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Mrs Robert A. Cuthbert's *The Black Bishop* company opened here on Monday. Mr Albert Guyon gives a powerful and interesting interpretation of the title-rôle, and the twin sisters are admirably represented by Miss Jeannie Marquise. Important aid is also rendered by Mr John Montgomery, Mr George J. Greig, Mr Stanley Arthur, Miss Nellie Benson, and Miss Guinevere Shelton, both company and piece giving entire satisfaction.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—The American Comedy Harmony Four are a leading attraction here, and present an excellent entertainment. Preston and Balmaine, with their illustrated songs, are received with all the fervour of established favourites, and Miss Alma Obrey is a comedienne of exceptional merit. A strong combination also includes Miss Marie Blythe, an accomplished contralto; the Villion Troupe in an imposing bicycle act; Miss Minnie Duncan and Mr Arthur Godfrey, capital sketch artists; Mr Bob Baxter, a really amusing comedian; Miss Annie Lawrie, a vocalist of ability; Mr R. C. M'Gill, a good Scotch comedian; and Mr Dan Conroy, an entertaining comedian and patterer. Mr Ernest Denney is musical-director.

BLACKBURN.

PAINE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. H. Page.—On Monday Messrs Bulmer and Barry's company presented the sensational drama *Sentenced for Life*. Sir Wallace Stilwell is capitally portrayed by Mr Ernest Lascelles; Mr Charles Whitlock is distinctly good as the Rev. Martin Orris; Mr Ernest Vaughan is excellent in his assumption of the rôle of Captain Paul Derrick; Mr Arthur Raynor displays ability as Lieut. Roy Stilwell; and Mr Frank Zara is most amusing as Percy M'Gentle. Miss Georgina V. France submits a painstaking impersonation of Adela Gray; Miss Mary Dalby is a dignified Lady Stilwell; and Miss Madge Douglas an efficient Kate Rennell.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Will Murray; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Drury.—The capital programme here is headed by the Kremo Troupe of Risley acrobats, whose feats can only be described as marvellous. Belrose and De Velin, operatic duettists, are creating a furore; Dandy George and his canine friend, Rosie, present a distinctly popular turn; the Sisters Bosanquet, vocalists, are rapturously applauded; and Kitts and Windrum provoke much merriment in a sketch entitled *Two in a Tent*. Edie Rivers is a smart comedienne and dancer; Ernie Mayne, comedian, sings some funny songs; and Condon and Preston, comedians and dancers; and Tom Le May, musical grotesque, are also well received.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee, Mr Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Mrs Lewis Waller's company, under the direction of Mr Haldane Crichton, is here this week in *Zaza*. The play is followed with absorbing interest throughout. Miss Violet Fulton distinguishes herself in the title-rôle, and her efforts are rewarded by manifest appreciation. Mr Eric Mayne's interpretation of Bernard Dufresne is replete with intensity and earnestness, and is a distinctly clever performance. Mr Edmund Lea gives a characteristic presentment of Cascart; Mr J. Spurling is well suited as the amorous Duc De Brisac; and Mr Edmund Waller is successful in the part of Jacques Rigault. Miss Kate Kearney retains the rôle of Zaza's aunt, Rosa Bonne, her bibulous propensities creating hearty laughter. Miss Alice Langley is pleasing and natural as Alice Morel; Nathalie, Zaza's maid, is in the safe hands of Miss Minnie Rayner; Miss Lena M'Naughton is handsome and impressive as Florianne; Miss Pauline Hague effectively impersonate Madame Dufresne; and Miss Nina Heath is ingenious in her artless prattle as Toto. The play, which is presented by Mr Charles Frohman, is staged with commendable completeness.

SHAFTESBURY HALL.—Mr T. J. West's living pictures include some interesting novelties this week, those representing local scenes and incidents, entitled "Bournemouth Day by Day," proving specially attractive.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry Johnston.—*The Private Secretary*, with our honoured friend the manager, Mr J. F. Graham, in his old, familiar, and successful study of the title part, has filled this house nightly from gallery to stalls. Mr Graham's embodiment of the character is better than ever. Mr W. Hargreaves fairly shares the honours as the irascible Mr Cattermole. Mr Wilfred Compton as Gibson, Mr A. Austin-Leigh as Douglas, Mr Vivian Gilbert as Harry Marsland, and Mr Raymond Chester as Mr Marsland lend valuable aid. The Misses Dora Grey, Florence Tressillian, Emmie O'Reilly, and Mrs Alfred Davis take the ladies' parts gracefully.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr Victor Turner.—*The Twin Sister* has for the second time found a responsive public here, and its romantic plot has awakened fresh interest. This time Mr F. H. De Quincey is the "hero," Count Orlando, and his presentment is good. Miss Lydia Busch as the heroine, Giuditta, shows to like advantage. Mr Stewart Willson as the Count Andrea, Mr J. V. Fairley as the lover, Bartolommeo, Mr Wallace G. Court as Lelio, and Mr Roland Hawkins as Beppo, also shine amongst this well-constituted company.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Lester Collingwood.—*Dishonoured* is a drama that appeals very strongly and successfully even to seasoned playgoers here. The story is engrossing, the situations are cleverly contrived, and the acting is all that could be wished. Miss Winifred Stuart as the heroine displays a comely and effective presence, and acts the part to the best advantage. Mr Arthur St. John, the author, gives a finished performance of the dishonoured Philip Cunningham, a part he has played a thousand times; Mr Percy Ballard acts commendably as the cousin; Mr Frank Stuart sounds the depths of pathos as Sir William, and is extremely popular; and the company all round, including Miss Crawford as Sybil, is excellent.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—*Is Law Justice?* was presented on Monday for the first time to local audiences, and was pronounced very good dramatic fare. Mr M. Morley Carrol enjoys much popularity as the young farmer hero, Harry Westleigh; Mr Oswald Lingard makes a notable hit as the villain, Martin Clifford; and true comedy is shown by Mr Matt Wilkinson as Joey Pagett and Miss Beatrice Wilkinson as Nancy Grey. Mrs Matt Wilkinson shines with her dramatic and pathetic portrayal of the poacher's daughter, and Miss Madge Blundell and Messrs W. Gardener, H. M'Donald, and Norman M'Owan also appear with success.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard.—*The Shaughraun*, *Called Back*, *The Octoroon*, and *Sweeney Todd* have all figured in the menu here. On Monday and Tuesday *The Shaughraun* was presented, with Mr Arnold Bell in his popular impersonation of the name-part. Miss Ida Bastow as Moya acted in a pleasing manner; The Misses Frances and Violet Campbell respectively and with much taste impersonated Claire Ffolliot and Arte O'Neill; Mr F. C. Robson was admired as Robert Ffolliot; Mr Cuthbert Imrie as Captain Molineaux played in good style; and Messrs Dalton Robertson and W. C. Reid filled the rôles of Corry Kinchela and Harvey Duff.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr J. R. Huddlestone.—A most enjoyable programme is provided here this week by Mr Dudley Clinton and a carefully selected company with *Betsy*. Mr W. H. Denny finds scope for his well known ability as Mr Dawson. Mr A. C. Thornhill contributes a creditable impersonation of Dick Talbot. Mr A. Conybeare Gough does justice to the part of Adolphus Birkett, and Mr Henry Doughty is the right man for Captain McManus. Miss Mary Jerrold is bright and engaging in the title-rôle. Mrs J. W. Braithwaite makes the most of Mrs Birkett, and Miss Elizabeth Watson is well suited as Mrs McManus. *The Spare Room* is the title of the curtain raiser, in which Mr Cyril Harrison takes the principal part.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr T. Sergenson.—*Where's Uncle?* is submitted here by Mr Frank Danby and company, and success is crowning their efforts. As Gibson Gallivant Mr Danby is really excellent, and his presence on the stage is quite sufficient to set the house in a roar. Mr T. W. Volt also has a good part in Captain Archie Grahame, and his humour is unlimited. Mr Rhys Thomas as Lieut Roy Neilson and Mr Milroy Cooper as Sergeant Angus M'Nab also call for approbation by reason of their excellent singing, whilst Mr Stephen Adeson distinguishes himself in the diverting rôle of Mark N. Slatem, the detective, and Mr Gus Danby is of material value as Professor Stone-Hunter. Miss Minnie Hunt is a charming Dorothy Slatem; Miss Nellie Bouverie assists in the fun as Mrs Cummings; and Miss Mabel Russell sings and acts well as Winnie Grahame.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Signor Pepi and Co.; Manager, Mr T. P. Duignan.—The star here this week is Mdlle. Luba De Sarema with her "Transcaucasia" sports. Great Zarmo, the juggling comedian, is also well received. Mdlle. Haydee with her marvellous mannikins; Amy Elcock, comedienne; Will Sargent, vocal comic; Florrie St. Roy, singer and dancer; Beatrice Willey, ballad vocalist; Chummie La Mara, burlesque comedienne; and F. Warden-Reed in a sketch are also acceptable turns.

NORTH PROMENADE RECREATION GROUNDS.—An excellent al fresco performance now takes place here twice daily (weather permitting) by the White Coon Banjo Team under the management of Mr Whalley Sheills and Will C. Pepper. The artists engaged this week are Miss Ethel Durnford, Miss Florence Arnold, Mr Stanley Kirkby, Mr Alf Wood, and Mr Ben Lawes, the last-named being a clever humourist.

BOOTLE.

ROYAL MUNCASTER THEATRE.—Proprietors Messrs Pennington; Manager, Mr H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert E. Wilson.—A novel attraction is provided here this week by Mr Will Hebden and his company in two absurdities, entitled *A Day in Paddy's Market* and *Muldoon's Picnic*. In the first-named Mr Will Hebden is the central figure, his portrayals of different characters being excellent; *Muldoon's Picnic* is also much enjoyed. Several musical and other turns are provided, including Shavo, a really clever juggler; Mr Eric Graham, coster comedian; Miss Alice Hatherley, vocalist; and a series of animated pictures by Messrs Lee and Steele. A cake walk competition has been successfully carried out.

BRIDLINGTON.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr Charles Palmer.—Herr Winternitz and his Royal Viennese band continue a source of great attraction. The vocalist this week is Miss Gertrude Senior, contralto.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr Henry Hague.—The company's English orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Churchill Sibley, is rendering some good programmes at this fashionable resort. The vocalists this week are that popular favourite Miss Margaret Cooper and Mr Charles Keywood.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs Beanland, Bath, and Denton.—The great attraction this week is a grand cake-walk competition nightly. The management has given one night's proceeds for charity, the St. Anne's Convalescent Home being the recipient. The company appears in some laughable sketches, and some burlesque glees are well done.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Richardson.—That excellent actress Mrs Bandmann-Palmer, supported by a very capable company, is paying a return visit here after a long absence with a well-varied répertoire. Schiller's play, *Mary Queen of Scots*, on Monday night drew an appreciative audience, and Mrs Bandmann-Palmer won unstinted applause for an intensely dramatic and emotional performance of the character of the ill-fated Queen. Miss May Grimshaw as Queen Elizabeth, Miss Wynne Hanley as Hannah Kennedy, Mr Montague Lane as the heroic Sir Edward Mortimer, Mr F. Skein as the Earl of Leicester, and Mr H. F. Maltby as Lord Burleigh shared liberally in the honours, and the remaining parts were in the hands of capable exponents. The play was magnificently staged. On Tuesday evening Mrs Bandmann-Palmer presented her own adaptation of the novel "East Lynne," and gave a very emotional performance of the part of Lady Isabel, excellent support being rendered by Mr Maltby as Archibald Carlyle, Mr Skein as the scoundrel Sir Francis Levison, Mr Sydney Bland as Lord Mountsevern, Mr Montague Lane as Richard Hare, Miss Grimshaw as Cornelia Carlyle, and Miss Gladys Jesson as Barbara. Praise is due also to Miss Violet Lucy for a touching effort as Willie Carlyle.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Francis Laidler.—For the first time here a representation is being given by Mr Sydney Vereker's company of *The Red Signal*, a drama of interest and brimful of stirring incidents and very exciting situations. It is capitally staged, and the acting is good. The part of the unprincipled Sir Otto Darkwood is a well-studied effort on the part of Mr G. Langdon, and Mr C. Sandford is excellent as his half-brother, Jack. Miss E. Sennett is winning as the latter's betrothed, May Sorrell; the duped Florence Culver has a clever exponent in Miss N. Caronne; Crazy Sal is a capital effort on the part of Mrs Tomlins; Mr T. Tracey plays Peter Sorrell well; and the comedy element is well sustained by Mr S. Vereker as Sammy Gay and Miss F. Bannister as Jenny Jones. The piece is well received, and the staging is excellent.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr P. A. Lennon.—Quaint, humorous, and diverting, in his sketch *Soldier and the Maid*, is George Mozart, at the head of a fine programme here this week; and bright, pleasing, and attractive as ever is the favourite comedienne Lelia Roze. Florence Deighton wins favour as a ballad vocalist; the Jagos, American speciality artistes, are capital dancers and vocalists; a fine performance on the single wire is given by James H. Jee, the world's champion jumper; Michael Nolan's Irish songs are well received; a welcome return visit is being paid by the agile and funny Brothers Egbert, "the happy dustmen;" the turn by the Adonis Trio, burlesque and protean artistes, is excellent in its way and well received; *Nonsuited*, a comic sketch well acted by Mark Melford and company, is productive of very hearty laughter; Edwin Boyde submits some capital comic songs which go well; and there is novelty and amusement in the musical act given by Clown Ferreros.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr F. Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr E. Harrison.—Georges Hackenschmidt, the champion Russian wrestler, who is defeating all comers here, is a big attraction; the hall is crowded at each performance. Mdlle. De Rose, the lady baritone, wins great applause; J. H. Hawtrey, actor-vocalist, submits a good turn; there is novelty in Beatrice Renee's turn as a comedienne; Harry Edson and his clever dog Doc cause a lot of amusement; and Nash and Noel, comedians; Tom Parker, comedian; and Clark and Argyle in a bright entertainment as international pipers and dancers add interest to the evening's amusement and complete the excellent company.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harcourt M. Beryl.—In aid of the local charities the Brighton and Hove Operatic Society is giving performances here this week of *The Yeomen of the Guard* and *The Gondoliers*. On Monday *The Yeomen of the Guard* was admirably rendered. Mr W. A. Lauder achieved great success as Jack Point; Miss Florence Donovan made a charming Elsie Maynard, and sang in artistic style; Miss Millie Hilton was bright and winsome as Phœbe Meryll; Mr A. Blackman was a humorous Wilfred Shadbolt; Mr E. Wallis Long displayed expressive vocalism as Colonel Fairfax, and Miss Ethel Harman was very effective as Dame Carruthers. Able support was also given by Mr H. Parks, Mr C. E. Willett, Mr W. J. Mitchell, and Miss Ethel Duly. The choruses were well sung. The duties of conductor were in the hands of Mr W. A. B. Russell, Mus. Bac., who may be deservedly congratulated upon the excellent performance. Much of the success was due to Mr H. Drury's admirable stage management.

AQUARIUM.—Manager, Mr W. J. Hardy; Secretary, Mr S. H. Andrews.—The Rosabel Ladies' Orchestra are retained here this week, and have again delighted large audiences. Welcome variety is afforded by Teddy Whittle and Alf Lee, comedians; and morning and evening concerts are given by the Aquarium orchestra, under the direction of Mr J. W. Slatter.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General Manager, Mr Ernest Lepard.—The following are here this week:—Herr Charles Prinz, with his sixteen forest-bred lions, and assisted by Mdlle. Marcella; Lily Burnand, in all her latest successes; Phillips and Terry, in the sketch *The Revolt of Man; or, A Hundred Years Hence*; Professor Thornbury, smoke painter and chromographist; Baker and Balfe, in their grand xylophone creation; Harry Champion, comedian; the Allisons (James and Lucy), comedy duettists and speciality dancers; Ray and Calden, in their clever comedy act; Mdlle. Florence, mimic; the Bohemians (Will and Madge), musicians and comedy artistes; and the Alhambra pictures.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The following are here this week:—Mons. Segommer, in his unique entertainment, "Half an Hour in a Health Resort;" Servais Le Roy, Mdlle. Talma, and Leon Bosco, monarchs of magic; A. G. Spry, comedian; Arthur Gill, double-voiced comedian; Salmo, the Golden Mephisto; the Violas, "the White Mahatmas;" the Sousloffs, tourbillon dancers; Smith and Johnson, coloured duettists; Ernesto, juggler; and animated pictures.

NEW PALACE PIER.—General Manager, Mr C. Thompson Ford; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—West's entertainment, "Our Navy," including an excellent series of animated pictures, proves very attractive here this week.

WEST PIER PAVILION.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr A. D. Norman.—Miss Maude Fergusson and company are here this week with *Olivia Primrose*. Mr Bernard Copping presents an excellent character-study as the Vicar; Miss Maude Fergusson makes a graceful and charming Olivia; Mr F. Dudman Bromwich is highly effective as the young Squire; Mr Cecil Proctor's Wm. Birchall is well played; and satisfactory support is given by Miss Katie Neville as Sophia, Miss Amy Rudd as Mrs Primrose, Mr Alfred Noel as the Farmer, and Mr Charles Vernon as Silas.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Macready Chute.—This week we have a special attraction in the engagement of Sir Henry Irving and his excellent company. On Monday evening *Becket* was magnificently staged, the scenery being specially painted by Mr Joseph Harker, and the twelfth century costumes executed by Mrs Nettleship, Auguste, and L. and H. Nathan from designs by Mrs Comyns Carr and Mr Charles Cattermole, R.I. The special incidental music by Sir Charles Villiers Stanford was well rendered by an augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr Sydney Faulks. Sir Henry Irving's masterly and impressive exposition of Becket is well known, and on Monday evening he played the part with all his accustomed skill, the large audience following the incidents of the play with rapt attention, and at the close of each act greeting Sir Henry Irving with enthusiastic applause. Miss Mabel Hackney gave an excellent and sympathetic performance of Rosamund; Mrs Cecil Raleigh displayed considerable power in her fine representation of Queen Eleanor; Master Cyril Smith played prettily and with intelligence as Geoffrey; and Miss Grace Hampton infused a welcome dash of humour into her impersonation of Margery. Mr Gerald Lawrence presented a fine characteristic performance of King Henry II.; Mr Laurence Irving did all that was possible with the short part of King Louis; Mr Frank Tyars was sufficiently aggressive as Sir Reginald Fitzurse; and the remainder of the long cast were all most carefully undertaken by other members of the company. The movements and disposition of the various "crowds," and the admirable stage pictures at the close of each act added considerably to the effect of the production, which has proved to be especially interesting. *Waterloo*, *The Bells*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *Louis XI.* are also in the bill.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Ernest Carpenter.—Mr Jarman's company is here with the sensational drama *In Dark Siberia*. The play is well staged, and it is capitally performed. Standing out boldly in the representation are Mr W. J. Riley, who gives a fine exposition of Captain Victor Gordon; Miss Helen M'Culloch, in a sympathetic rendering of Natalie Gordon; Mr Charles Osborne as Major Waroff, Mr Bert H. Ross as Colonel Vevski, Miss Cecillia Ransom as Paul Gregorovitch, Mr Fowler Thatcher as Sergeant Petrovitch, and Miss Linda Riley as Ivanova.

PALACE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Brothers; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr Welchman.—The strong programme here for the week includes capital acts, including amongst others, "Cycling the Loop" by Grais' baboon prodigies; Albert Wyndham and company, who present a Shakesperian episode, *Prince Arthur*, in excellent style; Victor Travers, an amusing eccentric comedian; Driscoll, Beattie, and company, comedy sketch artistes; the Weimars in a clever act, "Sloper on the Wire;" Miss Fanny Robina, a pleasing burlesque actress and vocalist; Miss Florrie Cooper, a young vocalist of ability; Royal Best, a smart character mimic; Billie Bint, an amusing comedian; and Lambert and Glover, comic duologue artistes. Vernon's animated pictures conclude an excellent entertainment.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr Thomas Barrasford, jun.—There is also a good bill here, headed by the Picchianis, lady acrobats, who are exceptionally expert in their line; the Meers, in a clever and amusing wire act; the Morton Trio, in a good vocal and comedy act; Miss Mary M. Glenn, who sings ballads with taste and expression; Miss Lily Lonsdale, a vocalist of considerable ability; Emma Don and company, in a pleasing vocal sketch, "Scenes from London Life;" Shawlene, a whistler of ability; the Brothers Lang, in smart knockabout business; Mdlle. Lilian, an expert trick cyclist; Miss Lily Sharp, a pleasing comedienne; T. B. Fayme, a comedian with a quaint style; and Ernie Myers, in a comic patter act.

COLSTON HALL.—This is the last week of the Imperial animated pictures, under the direction of Mr J. R. Poole. The short season in Bristol has been successful, and, as an additional attraction, a film is now shown reproducing one of Hackenschmidt's wrestling bouts. This film is unusually realistic, and it obtains much applause.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr James M. Hardie; Manager and Secretary, Mr James M. Hardie.—*I Defy the World*, as presented by Julian Malvern's company, under the direction of Mr Charles M. Julian, gives Mr Lewis Gilbert excellent opportunities of showing his versatility in the character of Leon Darville with his numerous disguises. Villainy is well portrayed by Mr Joseph W. Worley as Count De Beaulieu; and a most callous woman is Blanche Darville in the hands of Miss Lina Nazeby. Miss Augusta Tullock as Pauline Delaporte, Little Dorothy Vivian as Fanchette, Mr Charles Conway as Laroche work hard with due appreciation. Much amusement is provided by Mr Charles M. Julian as Samuel Wozzle, Miss Maud Lillian as Marie Wozzle, Mr Weedon Ross as Najac, and Mr Alfred Shaw as Bochon. The other characters are carefully portrayed.

BURY (LANCS.).

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—Mr Culling has provided a capital programme here this week. The Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Bedouin Arabs is remarkably clever; Mr Lauri Wylie gives a novel entertainment as the "Merry Master of Mimicking Mannikins;" the Great Cameron is a clever conjuror; Madie Scott, singer and dancer, makes herself a favourite; Harry Coates, the original singing navvy; Mdlle. Lucretia, burlesque actress and dancer; Rennie, Fairley, and Rennie, with their "Fun at a Railway Station;" Arthur Bright, comedian; and Renson and Waite, comedy artistes, make up an enjoyable show.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—For the concluding nights of the present season Mr Arthur Hare and company, in *The Eiderdown Quilt*, have appeared here. As Alberto De Bologna Mr Hare was very amusing; Mr Montague Rutherford was well suited as Sir John Candebec; Mr Clifford Seyler was very funny as Peter Mumford; Mr Garnet Wilson as Captain Bernard and Mr Ernest Mads as Dick gave capable readings of the parts. Sybil was charmingly played by Miss Mary Conroy; and Misses Lucy Pemberton, Olive Bourchier, and Nora Greenlaw played delightfully. The comedy was preceded each evening by the Screen scene from *The School for Scandal*.

CASTLEFORD.

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr T. W. Moyes; Acting-Manager, Mr A. P. Thwaites.—Patrons of the Empire are well catered for this week. Blanche and Diacoff, sensational cyclists on the teacup track, are at the head of the bill. Miss Gertie Malyon, with good songs, scores well; Syd Herman gives an exceedingly smart turn; Chas. O'Dell is well to the fore in song and dance; J. C. Heffron is successful as a character comedian; a graceful performance on the trapeze is given by Miss Lillie Le Briton. Other good turns are given by Miss Ethel Armstrong, Miss Edie Phyne, and Miss Fina Padley.

CHELTENHAM.

OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr H. Oswald Redford.—Mr Charles V. France's company, in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, has this week proved a huge attraction. Mr France has received a warm welcome, and his portrayal of the part of John Worthing, J.P., evokes much applause. Mr Arthur Burne gives a really finished study of the character of Algernon Moncrieff; the Rev. Canon Chasuble, D.D., is very successfully impersonated by Mr Allan Pollock; Miss Kate Bishop is delightful as the society dame, Lady Bracknell; Miss Ruth Maitland as the romantic damsel, Gwendoline Fairfax, is clever; Miss Gillian Scaife is charming as the youthful Cicely; Miss Mary Conway is a prim Miss Prism; Mr Warburton

CARDIFF.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robert Redford.—On Monday night the exceedingly laughable comedy *Trooper Hunt's Widow*, was presented for the first time in Cardiff by Mr Frank Nelson's company. The appearance of Mr Wilfred E. Shine was undoubtedly a great attraction, as his amusing impersonation of Widow Hunt causes much laughter. An excellent rendering of Francis Gresham is given by Miss Amy Edmunds; the important part of Mrs Jane Watson is quite safe in the capable hands of Miss Zoé Gilfillan; and Miss Susie Oak as the attractive young housekeeper, Bessie Wood, submits a pleasing delineation. Messrs Howard Cridland (Harry Frazer), Alec Flood (Richard Hunt), and Joseph Hudson (Gordon Ryder) are all deserving of praise for their skilful acting.

KING'S THEATRE (LATE GRAND).—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; General Manager, Mr Robert Sawin.—Messrs Imbert and Wright's powerful London company is here this week in the drama *First class*. Mr Leonard Clarke as the hero, Jack Stroud, acts in a fine, manly fashion. A sufficiently villainous Lewis Montford, alias First-class, is found in Mr Leonard Thackeray; Miss Ellen Armour as the waif Peggy, submits a sympathetic rendering of a difficult character; Florence Franklin is capitally delineated by Miss Lizzie Inglis; Mrs Stroud in the hands of Miss Emily Handley could not be improved upon; and full justice is given to the part of Mildred by Miss Isabel Innes. The amusing comedy of Mr Fred C. Imbert as Dan is certainly one of the main features of the piece. The decorations and improvements of the theatre are being rapidly completed, and patrons of the King's are already most agreebly suprised at the great change for the better the house is presenting.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea.—Mdlle. Diane De Fontenoy is the star turn here this week, giving her charming production *An Artist's Model*. George Gilbey's amusing songs keep the audience in the highest of spirits; J. W. Rowley is another comedian who is well to the fore in public favour; Ella Dean is a pleasing songstress; the juggling Jap Gintaro is clever in top-spinning; the Trio Jurgens give a novel acrobatic performance on globes; and other turns are Bennett and Martell, two capital comedians; the Eight of Hearts Troupe of pretty dancing girls; W. H. Clemart, a clever ventriloquist; and the fine bioscopic views depicting "Robbing the Mail."

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr George G. Ridley.—Mr C. Finch Hatton's company is here this week with *From Scotland Yard*.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr L. B. Barnard.—Daisy James tops the bill here; Ida Brophy is an attractive serio; the Goodfellows prove a smart comedy couple; and Lacey's Erascope, with new pictures; Geo. Prince, comedian; Bernard and Weston, patterers and dancers; and Adderley Howard's sketch combination complete the bill.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davies; Manager, Mr Frank J. Donne.—The success of the evening is made by the Dunedin Troupe of cyclists, who perform some very clever feats. The Three Sisters Chester are popular. Also appearing are Violet Grazia, soprano vocalist; Gracie Vernon, comedienne and dancer; Arthur Royce, comedian; and the Brothers Obo, comedians. Millie Lindon was unable to appear on Monday owing to indisposition.

CHESTERFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr Holbery Hardy.—Mr Fred Karno's company with *His Majesty's Guests* pays a return visit here. Mr Ainslie Burton is an amusing Sergeant Lightning; Lord Easem is in the capable hands of Mr George Hudson; Mr Miffin is ably played by Mr George Craig; Mr Henry Stuart is capital as Mr Minks; and Mr M. Johnson is well suited to the part of Fritz. Miss Cora Duncan cleverly sustains the rôle of Lady Maud Easem; Miss Madge Cambell is a pleasing Dolly; and Miss Daisy Milton charmingly represents Miss Manley.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—The drama *At War with the World*, by Mr George Lyttleton, and played by his own company, is the attraction here this week. Mr George Lyttleton takes the part of George Redfern in a thoroughly capable manner; Mr George Lyttleton, jun., makes a capital Squire Redfern; Mr F. C. Roper is well suited for the rôle of Farmer Maddox, otherwise Hugh Redfern; Mr Alec Mayhew gives a good representation of the adventurer, Westmeare; and Mr F. J. Lewis is very satisfactory as Gregory Blotts. Miss Lillian Beaumont is safely entrusted with the part of Edna Maddox. Miss Jane Massey does satisfactory work as Mrs Leslie. Miss Theodora Henries is decidedly good as Mabel Leslie.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Manager, Mr George A. Brandram; Assistant-Manager, Mr Ernest A. Massingham.—On Thursday afternoon a complimentary farewell benefit was given here to the retiring manager and assistant-manager, Messrs George A. Brandram and Ernest A. Massingham, under the immediate patronage of Sir Frederick and Lady Edridge, Mr and Mrs Nathaniel Page, and Mr Henry Neville. The attractions included many well-known artistes, amongst them being Miss Rosina Brandram, Miss Esme Beringer, Miss Constance Moxon, Miss Florence Jackson, Miss Maud Rundell, Miss Alice Underwood, and Messrs Tom Craven (the first manager of the Croydon Grand), Murray Carson, Alf Aubyn, Evelyn Vernon, Ted Ashton, C. W. M'Cabe, John E. Coyle, Ernest Rees, and Pete and Juno. On Friday H. V. Esmond's comedy *One Summer's Day* was produced, preceded by *Breaking the Ice*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr H. D. Lyle.—*The Little Vagrant* occupies the boards here this week, and is excellently played by Mr Charles A. East and company. Miss Florence Dalton as Mary Harris deserves unstinted praise; Miss Jessie Yatman is quite at home as Hannah Smithers; Miss Kathleen O'Connor is commendable as Julie Pilbeam; and Miss Haidee Fitch pleases all with her clever rendering of the title-rôle. Mr Charles A. East is a host in himself as Jim Harris; Mr H. T. Wood puts in good work as Eric Arden; Mr George Delaforce is satisfactory as Slideaway Bates; Mr Alfred Ibbottson is adequate in the part of Dr. Whitworth; Mr F. Harrison makes the most of Ebenezer Johnson; Mr J. Dunlop is a suitable Snatcher; and Mr J. Johnson is creditable as Joe Junkett.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—A palatable bill-of-fare is submitted here. Barco, animal mimic, is good; Helen O'Brien, comedienne, is applauded; George Gulliver is a smart ventriloquial mimic; a word of praise is due to Jubal and Joyce, patter comedians; Ernest Rees is a quaint comedian; Pete and Juno, coloured comedians, are very fine dancers; John E. Coyle, comedian and patterer, keeps the house agog with merriment; the Brighton Boys are clever in an acrobatic act, "The Funny Gipsies;" the Zampas, duettists and dancers, are worth seeing; Mr Fred Partridge's orchestra is quite up to the mark; and acceptable turns are given by Peter Kelly, comedian; the Sisters Cleave, character duettists and dancers; and Rivington and Gordyn, in the sketch *He, She, and It*.

DARLINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manageress, Mrs T. W. S. Jennings.—This week we have a powerful play, entitled *Bigamy*, from the pen of Mr Fred Moule. In the principal rôle, that of Diane de Courcill, Miss Grace Lester acts with considerable force and power, while in the character of Sylvia Dresden, Miss Elsie Capell gives a very interesting and sympathetic portrayal. Mr Colin Hazlewood as Sir Charles Dresden, Mr Charles Glenrose as Lionel Craven, and Mr Edward S. Earle as Edgar Craven fill their respective rôles satisfactorily. Mr Charles Burdon gives a manly and pleasing representation of the part of Frank Merrivale. Miss Constance Medwin as Lillian Lambkiss is also excellent.

DERBY.

NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr T. Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr C. Denley.—Miss Grace Warner's company is here this week with the naval musical comedy, *The New Commander*. The leading rôle is admirably sustained by Miss Warner, whose presentment of Violet Flintheart is excellent, her various songs being rendered in a thoroughly artistic manner. Yvette has a vivacious exponent in Miss Polly Prim, who is also gifted musically. Mr George Gordon makes the most of the part of Lieutenant Frank Harding, and with Mr B. Couch-Johns as Lieutenant Tremingway is deserving of praise. Mr St. Bernard Wintour acquits himself well as the Sultan, and Mr Edward Mervyn is highly diverting as Tittums. The Primrose Quartet give a number of graceful dances, and contribute considerably to the success of the performance.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Edwardes.—The bill is headed this week by Ergotti and King Luis and a clever troupe of Risley performers. Frank Lynne and company are highly diverting in the sketch, *A Trifle Mixed*; Vance Brothers give an amusing instrumental interlude, entitled *Musical Hilarity*; Mons. De Lil is a clever card manipulator; and Professor Hulbert contributes a capital ventriloquial entertainment. Other turns include Herbert Bernard, a clever comedian; Fred Alberto, who sings acceptably a number of Irish character songs; and Miss Kenna Russell, who should also be favourably mentioned for her contributions in the way of song and dance.

DEVONPORT.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owner, Mr A. Carlton; Manager, Mr Chas. Townsend.—Mr Carlton's capable stock company is presenting here this week *East Lynne*. Mr Samuel Livesey does full justice to the part of Archibald Carlyle, the Lady Isabel of Miss Judith Kyrle is extremely meritorious; Mr Herbert Cecil cleverly fills the rôle of Sir Francis Levison; Mr Leonard Aardale as Richard Hare, Miss Ethel Boyce as Cornelia Carlyle, and Miss Mimi Fisher as Barbara Hare all act with ability.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr J. Herbert Asquith.—*The Rajah of Ranjanpore* is the attraction here, and is being played under the management of Mr J. H. Morton. That talented vocalist, Miss Constance Bellamy, essays the rôle of Primrose with much success, while Mr W. H. Montgomery as Ernest Travers is very good, the rôle entirely being undertaken in good style. Mr Horace as Chicks appears once again with his accustomed success, while Miss Nell Ingram would be hard to beat as Eliza. Others who give worthy support are Mr Arthur Reid as Captain Hertage, Mr John Levy as Mr Stubbs, and Mr George Scully as Thistles. The real racehorse is naturally a great attraction.

HIPPODROME AND VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Geo. Weldon.—The programme arranged here this week is a very attractive one. As the Musical Savonas the Elliotts give a wonderful display on innumerable instruments and a scena which beggars description. At alternate houses they present a clever cycling act, with several original tricks. Senorita Eloina is a daring gymnast much above the average. Paddy still continues a firm favourite. Florence Lambeth, a prima-donna, has a good voice and receives ample recognition, while the Robertsons, in a capital sketch, *The Victims*, render good support.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessees, Michael Gunn, Limited; General Manager, Mr Charles Hyland.—*Charley's Aunt* is paying a return visit here and is well patronised. Mr Walter Pemberton gives an excellent impersonation of Stephen Spettigue. Amy Spettigue (Miss Marie Grogan) is creditable. Mr Aubrey Mallalieu as Jack Chesney and Mr Mark Wylton as Charley Wykeham are both good in their respective rôles. Mr Richard Fleming cleverly enacts the part of Colonel Sir Francis Chesney, and Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald makes a pleasing Kitty Verdun. Miss Mary Morison gives an effective portrayal of Donna Lucia; Mr Fred Epitaux gives a good representation of Brassett; Lord Fancourt Babberley is capitally played by Mr Edwin H. Wynne; and as Ela Delahay Miss Mary Mallalieu is excellent. The comedy is preceded by *A Barnecide Feast*, which meets with a cordial reception.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. Armstrong.—Sydney Grundy's charming comedy *A Pair of Spectacles* is being performed here this week by an excellent company, under the direction of Mr Russell Rosse. Mr David James, in the character of Benjamin Goldfinch, is all that could be desired; and as Mrs Goldfinch Miss Muriel Godfrey Turner is dignified and graceful. Mr Norman Clark acquits himself well as Uncle Gregory, and the rôles of Percy and Dick are well played by Messrs Lewis Willoughby and W. Lawson Butt. Mr R. Handon does well as Lorimer; as Lucy Lorimer Miss Sybil Ruskin is most efficient; and Miss Marion Lawrence is good as Charlotte. The remaining parts are well filled. *A Kiss in the Dark* precedes, and is well received.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitbread; General Manager, Mr Kennedy Miller.—*On Shannon's Shore* is being played here this week by Mr Fred Cooke's company. Mr Cooke gives a humorous impersonation of Barney; as Mary O'Shanahan Miss Gladys Gilchrist is excellent; the part of Hyacinth O'Neale is well played by Mr Sidney Grant; and Norah O'Rierdon is capitally embodied by Miss Doris Cameron. Mr Del Leone ably sustains the rôle of Gerald O'Neale; Miss Feemy Farrell is admirable as Oonah Cassidine; as Turlough O'Hanlon Mr Ernest Laceby is capital; and Miss Norah Temple is good as Biddy Brady.

EMPIRE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. S. Figgis.—The principal feature here this week is Boswell's circus of ponies, dogs, and donkeys, which causes plenty of laughter. The Four Elysians, vocalists and instrumentalists, are an interesting turn; Syd May displays much ability as a mimic; the Lee-Bentley company, in the sketch *Tooth for Tooth*, wins approval, as does P. W. Rickaby, character comedian; Edith Courtney is a charming ballad vocalist; Tessie Burnett is a capital dancer; Will Musgrove, comedian, scores a success; and George Ripon, who remains from last week, is still popular. The Empire pictures are up to the usual standard.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Chas. M. Jones; Secretary, Mr H. A. Murphy.—The attraction here this week is Troba, Continental juggler, whose clever performance meets with success. Bosanquet, the famous violinist, evokes hearty applause nightly; Little Barney, comedian, is highly amusing; Sinclair and Whiteford in their musical mélange, *Getting Even*, are successful, as is also Lena Brunton in her impersonation of music hall artistes. Flem and Brok, aerial boxers, are extremely good; Cissie Evelyn is a pleasing comedienne; Robins and Collier in their comedy act, *The Photographer and the Lady*, are going strong; Harry Calvo is an acceptable vocalist; and the Bioscope is showing some good pictures.

AT the World's Fair and Music Hall, Dublin, the proprietor, Mr C. A. James, is presenting the following artistes:—J. H. Carroll, dancer; Marcella, midget queen; Roselle, ventriloquist; Fred Bernard, comedian; Alice Townend, ballad vocalist; and Geo. Harcourt, vocalist.

DOUGLAS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Limited; Manager and Secretary, Mr Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Brittain.—The season of farcical comedies which Mr Herbert Ralland and Mr Walter Sealby have inaugurated at the Gaiety Theatre continues to be an artistic success. On Monday *Jane* was produced. Miss Chrissie Ralland in the name-part looked charmingly pert, and spoke her lines with point; Miss Mabel Sealby acted nicely as Lucy Norton; Miss Lulu St. George was excellent as Mrs Pixton, as was Miss Ada Marius as Mrs Pixton. Charles Shackleton as played by Mr C. B. Vaughan had "an agreeable rattle"; Mr George P. Ascott was well suited as Mr Kershaw; and Mr Walter Sealby was immensely funny as William Tipson. Mr Bertie Ralland did all that was necessary as Mr Pixton; and Mr Fred Fowler played cleverly as Claude. The play was preceded by the comedietta *The Admiral*.

NEW EMPIRE.—Lessees, Messrs Elderton and Smith; General Manager, Mr A. E. Smith.—Two houses nightly and an excellent variety company have drawn good attendances at this popular place of amusement. Mr Bob Padley and Mdlle. Adele present an entertaining turn. Miss Elsie Douglas, a young singer and actress, secures attention and applause; Mr John Matthews gives his descriptive songs with dramatic force; the farce *Milk for Tea* is capitally played by the Watson Trio; and other artists appearing are Mr J. H. Maxwell, the Gladwells, Charles Jerome, Miss Lily White, and Miss Fanny Douglas.

DERBY CASTLE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Limited; Secretary and Manager, Mr Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr Alfred Kelly.—The attendance at Derby Castle has been excellent, considering that the regular season has not commenced. The attractions are the Castle Orchestra; Walter Curtis, a smart and clever entertainer; Selbo, the king of clubs; the Bio-Motograph with animated pictures of the Manx motor trials; and numerous side shows.

Other attractions in Douglas are Buxton's Village and Pierrots, who give excellent performances three times daily; Burton's Pierrots, who occupy the band stand on the promenade morning and afternoon; and Mr Charles Dare's Minstrels on the Head. These three combinations draw large houses.

DUDLEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr J. W. Tilley.—The Brothers Luck and company are here this week. Mr P. T. Selbit is a clever and humorous sleight-of-hand performer; Mr J. T. Neill is realistic in a dramatic scena, *The Burgomaster's Dream*; Mr D. W. Watson secures loud applause as a cornet and post-horn player; G. W. Hastings is a vocal comedian of ability; the Brothers Luck are successful and cause much fun in a screaming pantomime called *Turkish Delight*; and Miss Kitty Gower, danseuse and lightning change artiste, and others help to make up a good programme.

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Prichard.—An extra strong programme is this week headed by De Gracia's baby elephants. Silent Tait is an exceedingly droll and clever eccentric wizard. Harry Leybourne, comedian, is successful, as is also Lily Turner, the latter's catchy songs being well rendered. Ada Marjutti gives a clever turn. Vendome and Chase are smart society duettists. Mabel Thorne, a favourite comedienne, and Marti and Julietta are also good turns.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore.—This week the Arthurian Players are appearing in *A Lion's Heart*. Miss Sidney Crowe as the heroine completely captivated all hearts; Miss Beatrice Goodchild, in the character of Bessie, acted throughout in a bright manner; Mr Herbert Skardon as Dick Lorimer made a capital appearance as the hero; Mr Percy Bell was well to the fore in the amusing part of the impecunious barrister; Mr Riddell Robinson as the French Colonel, gave a good rendering; and as the villainous valet Mr Augustus Wheatman excelled.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Dundee Empire Company, Limited.—Mr A. W. B. Kingston's company is here in *The Mill o' Tiftie's Annie*. Mr Kingston, in the principal part, proves himself to be a skilled artist, and that very excellent Scotch comedian Mr Harry Egan delights everyone with his quaint personality.

GAIETY.—Proprietors, Dundee Gaiety Company, Limited.—Two plays are staged nightly, *The Octoroon* and *Jack Sheppard*. Mr Fred Maxwell is well to the fore in both plays, and Miss Lois Du Cane also commands the greatest attention.

EASTBOURNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—Mr James Willard's company is appearing here this week in *A Woman of Pleasure*. Mr W. S. Stevenson gives an excellent portrayal of the part of the Earl of Carlingforth, and he is dignified and convincing throughout. The rôle of the villain, Major Burrows, is carefully and excellently played by Mr Arthur Gilroy, Mr William Vane is a manly, restrained Luke Goddard, Mr Fred Norburn plays well as Commandant Dench, and Mr Fred Laws contributes a good character sketch as Michael Isitt. The comedy element is well sustained by Mr Allan Charles and Mr Ern Carlton as Bobby and Joe. Miss Evelyn Robson is a very handsome and animated Countess of Carlingforth, Miss Lily Langfield is a pretty Dolly Dimple, Miss Grace Chesterfield makes the most of her opportunities as Mrs Josiah Bumpwell, and Little Miss Dolly Gilroy is a pretty and interesting Lord Arthur Selwood. The scenery is particularly good.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr A. Standen Triggs.—The Armadale company is appearing here in *The Vicar of Wakefield*, *David Garrick*, *The Sleigh Bells*, and *The Lady of Lyons*. In the first of these Mr E. Hogan-Armadale as the pathetic figure, Dr. Primrose, played quietly, effectively, and with distinct utterance; Mr A. Bartlett Garth contributed a consistently sound piece of work as Mr Burchell; Mr Fred Cherry made the utmost of the rôle of Moses in its limited possibilities; and Mr V. L. Granville was particularly suited in the part of Squire Thornhill; while Mr Fred Wilberforce was an able Jenkinson. Miss Marie Florence was a successful Olivia, Miss Violet Wilson was a bright, animated Sophia, and Mr E. C. Matthews was very effective as Mrs Primrose, and also did capital work as Mrs Symonds, and Miss Mabel Martin was excellent as Patty.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—The Mezzettis give a particularly smart and clever triple-bar act here and introduce plenty of comedy. Burnetti is very popular with his musical imitations. Lucia and Vista are graceful wire walkers who obtain abundant applause. The Paulus Troupe are capital acrobats. The Three Sisters Hayden are warmly welcomed in their novel and pleasing turn. Mr Alec Aubrey displays great strength on the silver chains. Mdlle. Albertine Melich's parrots are well trained. Solo and Mavo sing and dance brightly. Miss Rosie May delights with her singing; and Mr George Cosmon, comedian, completes the company.

ECCLES.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Hague; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr P. Ryan-Smith.—Mr Charles Harrington's company in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is paying its first visit to this theatre. Mr Harrington has got together a fine combination, and act four is practically devoted to variety entertainment. In this connection Sylvia Steele, Mr Wm. H. Nott, Iky Jones, Shorty May, Will Pettitt, and Dinah Washington are most entertaining. In the play proper, Messrs J. Carr, Chas. Harrington, John Henry Rogers, and Miss Zerlina Zerbini all play their parts excellently, and Little Minnie is well suited to the rôle of Little Eva.

EDINBURGH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General Manager, Mr G. T. Minshull.—What is announced as the "Bullock version" of *East Lynne* was presented at this house on Monday, the play having been specially rewritten and revised by Mr Wilson Barrett for the tour, which is under the direction of Messrs Harry Armitage and Percy Burton. Several members of Mr Barrett's own company appear in the cast by his special permission, and the eminent actress Miss Bessie Rignold has been secured for the part of Lady Isabel. There was a fair turn-out on Monday of admirers of Mrs Henry Wood's famous work, and the performance, which was a notably fine one, was warmly applauded. Archibald Carlyle was ably played by Mr William F. Grant, who is a skilful actor; and Mr Percy Foster portrayed the character of Francis Levison in all its sinister aspects in a careful and effective manner. Mr Paul Belmore, who also stage-manages, made a vigorous appearance as Justice Hare; and Mr F. W. Clitherow, a useful and always reliable artist, was an enjoyably amusing Lawyer Dill. Mr Edward Rochelle undertook the comedy part of P. C. Bullock, and extracted a vast amount of entertainment out of it. Miss Bessie Rignold was an ideal Lady Isabel, and under the guise of Madame Vine held the audience with her consummately clever and deeply pathetic acting. Miss F. Olive made an excellent Cornelia Carlyle, and Wilson and Joyce were ably sustained by Misses Gertrude Robbins and Frances Irving. Other characters were successfully undertaken by Messrs George Spence, Arnold Palmer, G. Belmore, and Misses Maude Bartlett, Daisy Maull, and Flo Florence, Miss Hilda Stainer appearing to much advantage as Barbara Hare.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss.—Mr Carl Hertz, the great illusionist, appeared here on Monday, and, assisted by Mdlle. D'Alton, fairly astonished the audience with his programme of wonders. The sylph-like Sisters Lunelle also made a welcome return, and have delighted everybody with their charming vocalism and pre-eminently graceful dancing. Mr W. C. Fields, an eccentric juggler of extraordinary powers of humour, introduced a capital entertainment, and was immediately successful. The American Bioscope was another feature of the bill, and the various pictures exhibited were heartily received. Little Zola is as smart a performer as ever, and the popular Mr Edwin Barwick gave dramatic scenes and mimetic personations with his accustomed cleverness. Pueblo Brothers danced with skill and effect, and the head and hand balancing of the youthful Maningos was deservedly applauded. Orpheus (musical expert) and Dan Thomas (comedian) complete the company.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—The manager has revived his up to date pantomime burlesque *Mother Goose* for this week, and having made arrangements for the services of Mr Coleman Davies and a first-class company, the production on Monday was a complete success. Of course Mr Ellis headed the cast himself as Mother Goose, his Doric being excellent, and altogether his performance was a highly creditable one. Mr Coleman Davies appeared as Baron Corstorphine Hill with lots of capital songs and much diverting business, in which he was satisfactorily assisted by Mr J. K. Orme as Flopps and by Mr Addison Thomas as the mysterious villain of the piece. Miss Kitty Thomas was a vivacious Jack, her songs being loudly encored, while Miss Eunice Udall was a delightfully engaging Jill, also singing well. One of the brightest members of the cast was Miss Kate Cameron, a lady of many accomplishments, who is evidently a prime favourite here. She is a talented actress, and a skipping-rope dance in the big scene of the production fairly brought down the house. The dancing of the piquant Sisters Alvyn was a feature, and the clever Sisters Glynne also gave a coon dance that was received with rapturous applause. A farcical comedietta preceded, in which Mr Coleman Davies and Misses Eunice Udall and Katie Cameron appeared.

FARNWORTH.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell.—The boards are occupied this week by Messrs Marston and Buckstone's *The Silver Cross* company. Mr Fred A. Marston is a capital exponent of the character of Ben Adams, his singing being greatly appreciated. Mr Syd Bazley creates rounds of applause by his clever impersonation of Tomkyns Quinton; Mr W. A. Buckstone is well placed as the Rev. Nicholas Frewin; Mr Wilfred Hargreaves is good as Jack Fudge; whilst Mr J. Leslie Baker as Arthur Merton and Mr Harry Glenny as Philip Frewin are both seen to advantage. Miss Maud Western gives a capital display as Little Sunshine; Miss Marion Armytage is very successful as Sally Beedles; and Miss Cissy Glenny is a creditable Laura Beechcroft. Miss Rosa Warmsley's Yankee Quartet give several excellent displays of acrobatic dancing.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland.—Mr Edward Marris's company in *The Dandy Doctor* is here this week. Mr Edward Marris as Brown provokes abundant laughter; Mr James Danvers, a droll and lively comedian, is clever as Colonel Pendred; Mr Walter Nugent is capable as Arthur Vandyke; Mr Fred Russell merits praise as Bertie Bolingbroke; Miss Lizzie Primmer is exceedingly good as Ivy Pendred; and Miss Florence Smithers cleverly portrays the part of Jane. Some attractive specialities are introduced in the third act by Mr James Danvers, Mr Ben Rowe, Miss Holden, and the Dandy Belles, a clever set of dancers.

VICTORIA PIER.—Lessees, Messrs Keith Prowse and Co., Limited; General Manager, Mr H. De Manche; Resident-Manager, Mr C. Leybourne.—The artistes engaged here this week include Miss Mabel Marx, whose charming songs delight the audiences; Mr Alfred E. Baker, baritone, is a good vocalist; Mr Roland Henry, humourist, is droll; and the Red Viennese Band is much appreciated.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr H. M. Schulz.—Madame Gertrude Shrimpton, soprano, is appearing with success here this week; and Mr Owen Clark, conjuror and society wizard, provides a capital turn. The animated pictures are exceedingly fine, and the Ladies' Blue Salon Band adds to the attractions of the programme.

GAINSBOROUGH.

ALBERT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robert Kirk.—Messrs Richards and Parr's stock company has produced *East Lynne* this week, with Miss Ada Waddock as Lady Isabel and Mr Henry Parr as Archibald. Mr J. Wilton Richards gave a good rendering of Captain Levison, and Miss Nellie Navarro appeared as Barbara. The other characters were capably played by Messrs J. Dobson Clyde, G. Paradise, G. Millard, P. George, &c., and Misses Amy Ross Clyde and Annie Body.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W. Nightingale.—Mr Frank Wilson's company is here this week giving a capital exposition of *The Marriage of Kitty*. Sir Reginald Belsize is well played by Mr Frank Wilson; Mr Sydney Orton is very successful as John Travers; Madame De Semiano finds a capital representative in Miss Phœbe Mercer; and Miss Vera Fordyce is irresistible as Kitty.

GREENOCK.

THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Notwithstanding the exceedingly favourable weather for out door recreation, the Varieties continues to be well patronised. The programme for this week is very attractive. The artists include Hilton and Hilton, the clever comedy horizontal bar performers; Sidney Dolf, a versatile comedian; Talberta and Douglas, who have been re-engaged; Will and Tim, tumbling tramps; the Pastor Bros., acrobats; Ben Lever, dancer; and Mona Clare, serio.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr F. Conneaux.—*The Dark Egyptian* is being played here during the present week, and a large amount of support has been extended to the production. Mr Harry Marlow fills the rôle of Edward Dyson with conspicuous success; the character of Clifford Dyson finds a capable exponent in the person of Mr Harry Cullenford; as Fred Wrinkles Mr Harry Elliston scores a distinct success; Mr Joseph Harling plays the character of Anthony Shelmerdale with conspicuous success; Mr Fred Buckland makes the most of the part of James Woodward; as Joan Elroy Miss Kate Froude scores a distinct success by her sympathetic rendering; Miss Gussie Everitt makes a first-rate Marie Dyson; and Miss May Mulvey acts capably in the character of Mary Tippet.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Bolam and Bacon; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr S. Smith.—Les Patty Brothers in their clever acrobatic and head-walking turn form the principal attraction at this variety theatre. Miss Fatmah Diard, the American prima donna, is an interesting singer; and others who contribute successfully are Dante and Elton, comedians; Cumminger, sand dancer; Gus Harris, impersonator; the Fordyces, comedians; and Toile D'Araignee.

GLASGOW.

ROYALTY, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager (pro tem.), Mr Percy Humphrys.—Mr Mark Ambient's pleasant play, *A Snug Little Kingdom*, is here this week. Mr Stuart Lomath gives a clever rendering of Ben Kershaw, equally as the impetuous young Yorkshireman of the prologue, and the rough good-hearted millionaire in the play. Miss Maud Marriott as the Margaret in the prologue acts with much power, and gives a bright and taking portrayal of the daughter, Dolly. In the later acts. Mr Harry Wren is well suited as the manly young composer, and his more aggressive brother, the doctor, is effectively played by Mr Frank Harris. Miss Ellen Owen's character study of the landlady is extremely good. Miss May Hayes as the vindictive nurse and Miss Hetty Lane as the eccentric slavey complete the cast, the latter lady scoring in her song and dance. The play is well mounted, and was accorded a hearty reception.

METROPOLE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry W. Day.—Mr Fred L. Connynghame's company is here this week with *A Mother's Love*. In the part of Matt Ruddock Mr Connynghame gives a most amusing study, and is well supported in the comedy line by Mr Fred Haming as Joe and Miss Annie Rogers as Mary. Mr Arthur Rose as the Vicar acts with much taste, and as the Vicar's wife Miss Violet Macaree shows strong dramatic talent. The Geoffrey Mannering of Mr Hugh Mewburn is a telling performance, and clever sketches are provided by Mr C. Vicars Rees as Yeast, Mr George Carle as Winkle, and Mr S. Clifton as Dr. Mervin. Miss Madge Willis makes an attractive Ellaline Mervin, and Little Marjorie is intelligently played by Miss Bertha Hanbury.

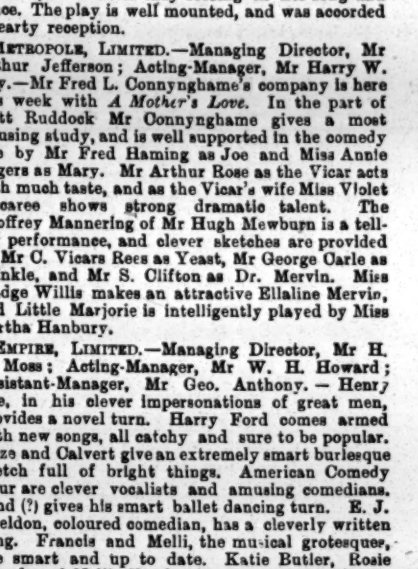
EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr H. E. Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr W. H. Howard; Assistant-Manager, Mr Geo. Anthony.—Henry Lee, in his clever impersonations of great men, provides a novel turn. Harry Ford comes armed with new songs, all catchy and sure to be popular. Roze and Calvert give an extremely smart burlesque sketch full of bright things. American Comedy Four are clever vocalists and amusing comedians. Lind (?) gives his smart ballet dancing turn. E. J. Sheldon, coloured comedian, has a cleverly written song. Francis and Melli, the musical grotesques, are smart and up to date. Katie Butler, Rosie Lloyd, and Nellie Vanderbilt give good comedienne turns in their respective styles. Newhouse and Ward, the daring trick cyclists, are still one of the favourite turns here.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and T. Barrasford.—Heading the bill here is George Leyton in his military sketch, *Boys of the Chelsea School*. The Imperial Orchestra of boys repeat their success of last week. Nora Emerald is a pleasing soubrette; the Max Trevelly-Harley Troupe supply a fine gymnastic turn; the burlesque juggling display by Walton and Lester creates much merriment; Meler and Mora give a capital display in dancing and ball-punching, the latter being received with much favour; Harry Baker opens the programme in an effective manner; the Vernon Troupe make a hit in their *Tannhauser* and miscellaneous selections on the xylophone; Howard and Collinson are very happy in *The Porter and the Parcel* sketch; the Bros. Harrison lend variety to a pleasant evening in knockabout singing and dancing; while Donaldson Bros. and Ardel do well with their *Zoo* sketch.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs Rich Waldon and Thos. Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr David Douglas.—The attractions provided here this week include John Tiller's company in the *Buffalo Bill Girl*, a musical farce of unusual interest. The other items consist of the Luppu Brothers, in a triple-bar act; Princess Pocahontas, ballad vocalist; Charles Hera, juggler; Passmore Brothers, novelty comedians; Billy Williams, Australian comedian; Celina Bobe, refined musical entertainer; and the Animatograph, with many original and up-to-date pictures.

GRAVESEND.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Captain H. E Davis; General Manager, Mr David Hart.—This week we have a really quaint comedian in Jack Foley, a particularly bright and pleasing comedienne in Louie Hurman, and original duettists and patter comedians in Stanley and Tich. The Sisters Mario and Nellie



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Hula sing tunefully and dance cleverly; Wood and Marion, American speciality artistes, prove a great "draw;" and W. F. Moss as a comedian causes roars of laughter. Mdlle. Du Roche is a delightful soprano vocalist. The Edisonograph exhibits a fresh collection of films.

GREAT GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr S. Tolfree.—The musical comedy-drama *Dare-Devil Dorothy* is here this week, presented by Mr Henry Swinerd's company. Miss Marjorie Cecil pleasingly sustains the title-rôle, while Miss Mildred Clay does well as her sister, Ruth. Mr W. F. Green is good as Captain Fielding, and the same may be said of Mr Henry C. Ward as Captain Dudley. Mr Arthur Verne as Silas Crump displays considerable ability as a comedian, his dry humour being highly amusing. Miss Nellie Harcourt makes a charming Judith, and scores with a smart cake-walk. A number of entertaining specialities are introduced, including the Sisters Blake, who are graceful dancers. The Four Trees, a favourite quartet of lady artistes here, have appeared as an extra attraction this week.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr T. Edwardes; Manager, Mr H. F. Miller. — The comedian, W. J. Churchill, has made his second appearance here this week. He has a number of good songs, and his patter is especially diverting. The Bodina Trio of musicians give a refined instrumental and vocal turn, their harmonised numbers being particularly pleasing. The Garden Troupe are a sextette of clever dancers and pipers, their performances partaking of an international character. Wallau is a juggler whose dexterity with billiard balls has won considerable applause. Other turns are Lil Eplin, comedienne; the Two Neros in a speciality "The Escaped Convict;" the Venola Brothers, comedy gymnasts; and Fred Bronte, actor-vocalist.

GUERNSEY.

LES FERRES HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr Edword Smith.—On Monday this Hippodrome opened for a season. The artistes engaged are Sarino, musical instrumentalist; Henri, high climber and rope equilibrist; Turtle and Turtle, flying ring artistes; and Hanlon and Carl, in their marvellous triple-bar performance. An amusing turn was given by Linton, conjurer; and the Bros. St. Louis, trapeze eccentrics; Ariel and Astarte, in their pot-pourri act; and Almero, in his wonderful performance on a single thread of wire, are all well received. The Imperial Bioscope, with new pictures, is also an attraction.

HALIFAX.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling. —A big attraction here this week is Mdlle. De Dio, whose picturesque dances and poses are marvels of beauty and brilliancy; Nelly Loomis and coons supply a good, brisk entertainment, consisting of songs, dances and cake-walks; Edgar Jones, a coloured artist, is a droll; the Andreassan Brothers are particularly smart acrobats; the Howards do a good musical turn; and contributions are well rendered by Harry Taft, a comical vocalist and whistler; Albert Darnley, vocalist; and Georgie Corlass, burlesque artiste.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Steuart Cecil. — Herman Melot, conjuror, is well known in Halifax, and his clever work is appreciated as much as ever; the Jackson Family give a musical entertainment which is of quite a high class, they are thoroughly capable musicians; Mabel Hind is a clever little lady, her singing and dancing being artistic; Dora Martini is graceful in her trapeze act, which is skilfully and smartly done; Muir and Bartlett have a good duologue which seems to please; the Floradoro Girls work hard, and their energy is rewarded; Gus Hindell sings with dramatic effect; and Walter Groves' company keeps the house in constant laughter by an admirable performance of the screaming farce *Poor Pink*.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr R. Hullah.—Messrs Wal Pink and Herbert Darnley's musical comedy *The Merry Mormon* was played here on Monday and two following nights. The children styled the Two Golliwogs are decidedly clever; Mr Harry Kilburn gets through a large amount of work with credit, and Miss Millicent Pyne, Miss Kathleen Gerard, and Miss Rose Temple act and sing with much spirit, whilst as Maggie M'Kay Miss Ruth Grosvenor gives a capital interpretation of a lady's-maid. Mr J. R. Val and Mr J. Harold Carson also make the most of their respective rôles. Mr Arthur Hare's company in *The Eiderdown Quilt* were announced for Thursday.

KURSAAL.—Manager, Mr H. J. Dacre.—Charlene and Charlene have this week supplied the variety turn at the Kursaal evening concerts, which have been well attended.

HANLEY.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone.—Miss Marie Dagmar and company are paying a visit in *A Life's Revenge*. The company includes Mr Fred C. Somerfield, whose Prince Boris Strogoroff proves most powerful and effective. Miss Dagmar as Princess Vanla Ivyala contributes a good reading. Mr Walter Roberts does well as Michael Orloff; Mr John F. Traynor is a clever exponent of Paul Starovitch; Mr Percy Dawsone as Maurice Trevor acts with skill; Nicholas is in the capable hands of Mr Edwin Dodds; Mr Martin Bigham is excellent as Lieutenant Semaloff; Miss Kathrin Eckart as Marcia Vittoria is a smart exponent; Miss Sallie Adelstone does well as Daphne Dashaway; and Miss Vera Butt as Aculina is good.

HULL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr W. Morton; Manager, Mr W. F. Morton.—*The Manxman* is here this week. Mr A. B. Cross is the new Pete, and very worthily he fills a part of great difficulty. Miss Minnie Watersford is a very commendable Kate.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr John Hart; Local Manager, Mr H. Esden.—Popular plays and popular prices are filling this house. Mr Sydney Spencer's play, *The Hero of the Flag*, is a strong drama running into four acts, and is not without its humorous side. Miss Lizzie Hall fills her part with considerable skill. As her antithesis, the scheming scoundrels, Mr Sydney Spenser has a rôle he fills to perfection.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Sole Owner, Mr W. Morton; Manager, Mr Geo. Morton.—*At War with Women*, by Frank Bateman, is produced by the author with a strong cast. It abounds in sensational situations, and has its light and shade cleverly developed. Miss Lizzie Montague is a capable artiste, and her reading of her rôle is highly satisfactory. The laughter at the snapshot proclivities of Mr Shaun Glenville is loud and hearty.

PALACE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Local Manager, Mr A. Graham.—R. G. Knowles is the "drawing" turn this week, and his epigrams go as well as ever. Selkirk's patriotic juvenile spectacle *The Gordons at Dargai*, which includes a number of Hull children, comes in for a good measure of applause; the Three Ramanciers excel in a daring ladder act; Vivianis has great dancing ability; Captain Slingsby creates diversion with his ventriloquial figures; Miss Amelia Lagreze is a capable singer; Bert Brantford does well; and other turns include Marie Sinnett, Alexandra Edwin, and Cullen and Carthy.

ALHAMBRA.—Resident Manager, Mr C. J. Bartleet Perry.—Weiland and Charles Bignell are the principal turns here. Thos. E. Finglass is a clever singer of coon ditties; Edie Anderson, comedienne and dancer, although young in years, possesses great ability; Clarke's Nippers give a smart entertainment of ball-punching and boxing; and Grace Olivia, balladist; Billy Richardson, stump orator; and Massias O'Connor complete the programme.

HARTLEPOOL.

EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg.—The Barra Troupe of musical exponents head a bill that is packing the house nightly with audiences that thoroughly appreciate the fare placed before them. The performance of this clever troupe of instrumentalists results in repeated and persistent recalls. Another turn that is deserving of every possible praise is that of Will Cornish, one of the smartest and most finished manipulators of bells and tubophone that it has been the lot of a Hartlepool audience to witness. Juvenile precocity is strongly in evidence in the comedy patter and songs of Archie Glen, who is well received; Keith and Mersen, in their sketch, introduce a clever contortionist and hand-balancing exhibition; the Sisters Redfern, coon comediennes and banjoists, are especially strong in the latter line. Kit Keen thoroughly deserves the encore which his bone solo is awarded, and other turns favourably received are Tom Lloyd, eccentric comedian; Vera Mayne, burlesque actress; and Burns's Bioscope.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr G. H. Gaze.—Messrs Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company has paid a week's visit here with the stirring American drama, *The Still Alarm*. Mr M. H. Glenville played the hero, Jack Manley, with force. The part of John Bird was admirably presented by Mr Robert Wilton. Mr Fred Osmond's genuine comedy as Doc Wilber was much appreciated, and was ably assisted by Mr Tom Beasley as Willie Manley and Miss Hettie Zillwood as Carrie Wilber. Miss Mabel Veriton gained distinction for her portrayal of Mrs Manley. Miss Florence Palmer submitted a strongly sympathetic rendering of the pathetic rôle of the heroine, Elinore Fordham. Joe Jones was well played by Mr Robert Lord, and as firemen Messrs W. Edwards, E. Tudor, H. Johnstone, G. Francis, and T. Varney won distinction. The clever trained horses, too, evoked admiration.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr John D. Hunter.—*The Professor's Love Story* is very prettily told here this week by Miss Nina Cressy's comedy company. Miss Cressy herself gives an intelligent performance of Miss Goodwillie; the Professor is faithfully represented by Mr Ernest E. Imeson; Mr Eric Maxon as the doctor plays with constant vitality; as Sir George Gilding Mr W. Willox-Cadogan is eminently satisfactory; Messrs John Wilmot and Pat Alexander introduce a love episode with liveliness and spirit; and Effie, as played by Miss Ethel Russell, is as true to life as she is diverting. Miss Frances Vine is natural in her assumption of the Dowager Lady Gilding; Lady Gilding finds an acceptable exponent in Miss Ruth Wingrove; and Miss Maude Evelyn plays the part of Lucy White with exquisite grace and finish.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur.—Miss Gertrude Sterroll's company is here for six nights with the farcical comedy, *The Late Lamented*. The merriment of the piece is effectively displayed by Miss Gertrude Sterroll as Mrs Stuart Crosse, Mr Ernest Wintour as Mr Stuart Crosse, Miss Beatrice Egerton as Mrs Webb, Mr Coningsby Brierly as Richard Webb, Mr Ardene Linden as Major Joseph Marshall, and Mr Philip Renouf who shows ability as Parker. The one-act comedietta entitled *Crisis* is played in front of the chief piece each evening.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Acting-Manager, Mr N. M. Robinson.—This hall is closing in a flood of success, the combination appearing this the last week being excellent. At the head appear the talented and daring Bonhair-Gregory troupe of risley acrobats, supported by Ralston and Francis, in a musical nautical scena; Tambo and Tambo, expert tambourine players; the Two Emmetts, merry Dutch impersonators; George Bernard, in his pathetic song scena, *Our Sacred Cross*; Le Barre, clever comedy gymnasts; Oliver Conroy, a highly diverting comedian; and interesting films on the Bio-Tableaux.

ILKESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager and Licensee, Mr L. F. A. Rogers.—Messrs Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company is paying a visit here with *The Romany's Revenge*. Mr W. Travis Green plays naturally as John Hope; Mr A. W. Harvey is a painstaking Archibald Heath; and Mr Arthur Hinton works hard as David Renard. Mr W. Beesley makes an interesting policeman, and Mr Chas M. Daly as Bobby, seconded by Miss Dora Histrom as Polly, provides the necessary humour in a praiseworthy manner. Miss Lydia Andre does well as Zamet, the gipsy boy, and Miss Lelia Zillwood is seen to great advantage in the dual-rôle of Lillian Hope and Elspie, the gipsy.

POPLAR PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Jabez Barber.—Several new and attractive turns are provided this week, amongst whom may be mentioned Harry Albery, comedian and dancer; Maggie Leigh, serio; and Olga Tosti, soprano vocalist. Mr Bob Gardner contributes some of his clever specialities.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr J. Richards.—The following artistes contribute to the excellent entertainment provided this week:—Marion Blake, the gay serio; Hart and Rudd, comedians and dancers; Florrie Wright, comedienne; the Sisters Valner, classical duettists; and T. W. Lenner, eccentric comedian.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson.—This week *Her Fatal Past* company is paying a first visit here. Mr Albert Sember gives a manly performance of Mark Desmond; Mr Wilson Coleman submits a powerful portrayal of Gilbert Fernside; Mr T. E. Ward is quite at home in the part of Jonathan Buckstone Nobbs; and Mr Algie Spalding makes the most of the drolleries of Dickey Bird. Miss Lillie Monckton is responsible for a fine rendering of Belle De Lara; Miss Ward plays the part of Honor Symes very feelingly; and Miss Marie Ault is a sprightly Kitty Springwell.

KETTERING.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Payne.—A variety company is the attraction here this week. Mr Geo. Schicklay's performing bears are a feature of the programme; the Revell Troupe appear successfully in a comic act entitled *Mischief*; the Sisters Tyrell are seen to advantage as cake-walkers and dancers; Mr Fred Ward is a capital comedian; Bendo is a marvellous contortionist; and the other items include Miss Hilda De Gray, Mr Frank Royal, the Cosmo Trio, Mr W. M'Ivor, and Messrs Frew and Frew, who all add materially to the enjoyment.

LEAMINGTON.

CORPORATION MUSIC SEASON.—In addition to the Municipal Orchestra, which is giving the usual concerts in the parks and gardens, another of Messrs Adeler and Sutton's troupes of pierrots is engaged this week. Charley Harvey with his amusing songs and patter stars the troupe, while able support is accorded by Frank Dunlop, humourist; John Green, a powerful baritone; Emilie Tait, soprano; and Henry Saunders, pianist.

LEEDS.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr Fredk. Vincent.—Mr Arthur Milton is here with a strong Milton-Rays' company in the exceedingly clever musical farce *A Hot Night*. Mr Milton, Mr Henry Osman, and Mr Harry T. Butler as the three erring husbands are continually in awkward situations, and their endeavours to extricate themselves therefrom cause much merriment; Mr Clifford Morgan is a decided success as the Professor, his vocal work being excellent; Mr Rolando Martin is also productive of great hilarity as the waiter, Whiffles; and Mr Fred Mulvey is effective as Captain Drake. Miss Susie Beaven acts and sings well as Polly Drake; Miss Clara Reid in the part of Lucy Lorimer achieves a notable success; and Miss Madeline L'Estrange does well as Mrs Flutterwig. The Eldorado Quartet of dancers are a prominent and pleasing feature of this bright show.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr R. Ernest Liston.—Still another stirring drama is presented here, the title being *Who is the Woman?* the piece lacking nothing in exciting situations. Miss Ellen Cranston has the leading part of La Duchesse, the much-abused heroine, and her fine emotional acting is much admired. Mr Clarence Burnette also has a strong part—that of Father Jean—to which he does full justice. As Jolliboy Mr Frank Brunell manages to introduce a welcome humorous vein, and amongst a strong company specially good work is done by Mr Geo. D. Knight, Mr Gerald Byrne, and Miss Nellie Burnette.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Chas. Bush.—That evergreen favourite *A Royal Divorce* holds the boards here, and still continues to attract. Miss Edith Cole repeats her admirable performance as the divorced Empress. Mr Frederick Victor makes a favourable impression by his powerful rendering of Napoleon. The part of Talleyrand is effectively played by Mr Claude Agnew. Miss Lilla Wilde is responsible for a careful portrayal of Marie Louise, other leading parts being creditably done by Mr Trevor Lowe, Mr James Willoughby, and Mr Dennis Bryan.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Resident Manager, Mr T. Gerald Morton. — This week's big turn is Mr Bransby Williams, the accomplished character actor, who presents with great success his sketch, *The Veteran's Birthday*. Those clever cross-talk comedians, the M'Naughtons, score heavily. Norman French, eccentric dancer, is one of the most popular turns in the programme. Dan Crawley repeats some old successes; a troupe of performing dogs get through a series of surprising feats at the instigation of Max Renard; Mr and Mrs Findon present their clever sketch in pleasing style; Alice Lloyd, a charming comedienne, has some acceptable items to submit; and further contributions are forthcoming from Frank Seeley, eccentric comedian; Gallando, novelty clay modeller; and the Wilhelmina Quartet of singers and dancers.

TIVOLI. — Proprietor, Mr Thos. Barrasford; General Managers, Mr Edgar O. Waller and Mr Chas. Weldon.—The big attraction here is the performance of that sensational feat, "Looping the Loop," which is being successfully accomplished by Miss Madeline. An excellent company supports, Conn and Conrad, in a funny act, *The Burglars*, being great favourites. Harry Conlin, comedian, is popular; James Dubois, the well-known animal personator, appears successfully; comic acrobatics by Prevost and Prevost are well received; Mdlle. Fredrica presents her wonderful performing dog and pony; whilst Mora and Lola, in a burlesque musical; Maud Navette, serio and dancer; Daisy Davidson, vocalist; and Vincent, acrobatic tumbling expert, are also appearing.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. U. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Jones.—John Lawson and company remain on here a second week with presentations of *The Yellow Cat* and the ever-popular *Humanity*, both of which are hugely successful. At the other end of the bill appears that popular vocalist, George D'Albert, whose turn is much appreciated. Bijou Russell, comedienne and dancer; George Adams, vocalist; Mollie Doon, songstress; and Harry Haytor, comedian, complete a capital programme.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Wimtanley; Business-Manager, Mr George M. Slater.—Mr Kendal Chalmers' excellent company, presenting the successful farce *Tom, Dick, and Harry*, is the attraction here this week. As Tom, Dick, and Harry Messrs Phil Harper, Ivan Gore, and Guy P. Ellis give embodiments that are successful. Mr C. Wordley Hulse is capital as General Rufus Stanhope, and Mr Lionel Rouch as Matthew and Mr James Lewis as Oliver are both good. Miss Nina Blake-Adams as Isabel Howard and Miss Ada Mansfield as Mrs Winters are also to be complimented on clever portrayals. The dramatic episode *A Terrible Revenge* precedes.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal.—Paul Cinquevalli, the world's greatest juggler, is most fittingly placed at the head of the programme here this week. It is always a pleasure to watch Cinquevalli, his tricks being done with a smartness, combined with a delightfully artistic stage humour, that fully deserves the enthusiastic applause bestowed. The Brothers Leslie score a success with their clever and original act "Music Mad," which has the merit of being refreshingly funny. Will English, the real coon, and originator of eccentric walks, is well received. Frank Coyne is a comedian of the best sort, and his popularity with Leicester audiences is as great as ever. The Fergana Trio give a remarkably clever exhibition of head-balancing. Sibb and Sibb give an exceptionally clever and graceful performance on the double trapeze. Other turns are contributed by Pat Rafferty, Irish comedian; Howard and St. Clair, in a bright duologue; May Milburn, comedienne and dancer; and Carrie Joy, comedienne.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—The top-liners here this week are the Steinway Glee Singers, in their new scena "Songs of the Sea," whose artistic contributions are well received. The Gracio Trio of contortionists and acrobats are very smart. The O'Malleys, in their eccentric comedy act, create roars of laughter. Flo Challis, contralto vocalist, gives a delightful turn. Maudie Vera is a success as a descriptive vocalist and coon artiste. The Weirs, duettists and dancers, in "The Bootblack and the Flower Girl," are good. Other capital turns are contributed by Martino, in his original speciality "A Nest of Vipers;" Mark Leslie, coon vocalist; and the Three Artells, in their comic gymnastic sketch *At the Bar*.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—The management has this week secured the services of a first-class variety company, which is headed by the New York Comedy Four, who on making their appearance was heartily received and their singing greatly applauded; the Four Juneis proved themselves talented musicians on the violin and mandoline; Miss Edith Sylvesto delighted the audience by the graceful manner in which she goes through her acrobatic performance; Mr Will Lytton, comedian, was very successful; Miss Annie Cohen, comedienne, was well received; Miss Ailsa Douglas, ballad vocalist, is pleasing; and Mr Joe Graham is a capital ventriloquist and mimic. Stanley and Vandyke, in their comedy act, "Tramp and Slavey," deserve praise.

LIVERPOOL.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. M. Hardie; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr J. Gaffney.—Mr Wilson Barrett has established a record in Liverpool. Beyond the Carl Rosa opera company, who in their bright days generally sojourned here for a couple of months or so, a stay of three weeks running has, if memory serves aright, never been accomplished by any actor in the city on the Mersey. To-night (Saturday) Mr Barrett will have given eighteen consecutive evening performances and three matinées of the best things in his répertoire. Coming only for Whit week, he found the demand for seats so great that his visit had to be extended, and as popular prices were announced public patronage was exceedingly satisfactory. During this week *The Manxman*, *In the Middle of June*, *Ben my Chree*, and *The Silver King* have been presented, in addition to the first production of the new work, *Lucky Durham*, which will be noticed at length next week. Mr Barrett and his able company will carry away with them pleasant recollections of their present visit to Liverpool.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Licensee, Mr J. G. Howard; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Montgomery, jun.—The introduction upon the stage of a large submarine boat in full working order is somewhat novel, and as the fact was well advertised good business has been done here during the week with *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Mr W. B. Brabner is the author of the play, which runs through four acts, and comprises several interesting and powerful situations. Included among the principal artistes are Mr T. Arthur Jones (head of the the company), who gives a finished rendering of the part of Captain Harold Marston; Miss Madge Morley, who assumes with credit the rôle of the orphan heiress; Mr Oswald Douglas, Dr. Colbrook, head of the League of Silence; Mr J. A. Wilson, and Mr C. Newton Buckland.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—Verno and Voyce top the programme this week with a vocal act entitled "Father and Son." The Waldrons, who bottom the bill, had a gratifying reception. They are very amusing and are adepts at clever and original patter. The Henriques, one of the best turns of the evening, are very clever and amusing acrobats; W. H. Atkinson, a well-known local baritone, is exceedingly well received; Bock Pylades is a capable impersonator; the Steens mystify the audience with their thought reading entertainment; Lilian Travellie is a pleasing burlesque artist; and Brindall and Cooper are good dancers.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Harris Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons. — Messrs Charles Draycott and H. B. Peppin's capable company has occupied the boards here during the week with the musical melodrama *The Stolen Birthright; or, a Father's Revenge*, and good houses have resulted. In the company are Mr Charles Draycott (Count Marco Taddeo, Chief of Police), Mr C. Quinton Fulford, Mr H. B. Peppin, Mr J. G. Maine, Mr Wilfred E. Brandon (responsible for humour), Miss Celestine Brandon, and Miss Lydia Donovan.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr F. O'Toole.—Another good programme is given here this week. The Vivians appear in a musical travesty entitled *Life's Reverie*, which is watched with interest. Agnese and Arthur Lynch, American song illustrators, are pleasing; and the rest of the evening's enjoyment is contributed to by Denby and Dent, Harry Naylor, Bessie Willow, Martin Henderson, Carrie Leslie, and T. B. Talbot.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; General Manager, Mr F. Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A. Cook.—Mr Wilkie Bard, a favourite, heads the bill here, and his songs and patter, new and old, are thoroughly enjoyed. An interesting and well-staged sketch, *The Fighting Parson*, is an important item, and as give by Messrs George Gray and company earns cordial applause; Frank Sylvo provokes much amusement with his comedy juggling; Franco Piper, described as the "greatest banjoist living," displays considerable expertness in his performance; Elsie Robey is amusing with her speciality act, "The Slaveys' t Home;" and the remainder of the bill is occupied by Gladys Mavius, Canadian coon; Hamilton Hill, Australian baritone; Rich and Rich, eccentric comedians; Alexandra Dagmar, burlesque artist; Nellie Stratton, comedienne; J. A. Wilson, the black oracle; the Oswald Sisters, duettists and dancers; and Les Duvals, horizontal bar artists.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—A programme of the customary high standard has been submitted here this week. Foremost are the Three Seldonis, statue artistes, with their effective athletic poses and classical groupings, an entertainment both pretty and well presented. Agnes Mahr, "the American Tommy Atkins," executes some graceful dances, for which she is accorded hearty applause. Francois Rothig gives a clever sleight-of-hand exhibition; the tumbling and juggling of the Three Laurels show them to be finished adepts in that particular line; Paulton and Dooley provoke laughter with their comic trick cycling; Haig and Novel give a refined comedy act; and other artistes are Lali Cliffe, song and dance; Ted Young, comedian; Lily Flexmore, comedienne; Ada Twibell, burlesque artiste; the Mackweys, in their original comic wire act; and Mdlle. Florizell.

PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr Edwin W. Smith.—Since the opening last week, after reconstruction, this popular place has enjoyed satisfactory patronage. A good bill is presented this week, the principal item being the British Quartet, who render with fine effect a number of favourite pieces. T. W. Royal gives a good turn as an acrobat; Prince Ishmael performs some clever conjuring tricks; Mr Harry Barclay renders several patriotic songs in good style; and others who appear are Miss Mona M'Donald, vocalist; Martin Henderson, blind musician; Tom O'Neil, &c.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr J. Kiernan.—The principal attraction here this week is Madame Collard with her well-trained dogs dressed in masks and skins to represent lions and tigers. Leighton and Mona introduce some eccentric piano playing and dancing; Circe, specially engaged, mystifies his auditors with some smoothly executed sleight-of-hand tricks; Bromley and Fontein appear to advantage with their humorous sketch, *Bits of Mirth and Music*; and Victor Newman, character actor; the Burgatiles, musical pantomimists; and Kate and Cissie Sullivan, duettists and dancers, are also in the bill.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery.—The programme here this week is headed by the Brothers De Wynne, sensational acrobats, who give an excellent turn. The pleasing performance of Mdlle. Haydee's mannikins wins for that artist loud applause; the Three Alexanders give an acceptable variety entertainment; and others in the bill are the Haldyne Duo, with the vocal comedy duologue, *The Curate's Dilemma*; Johnny Chippendale, comedian, vocalist, and dancer, and Bo Speeks, coon vocalist and dancer.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—The south-end palace of varieties puts forward an acceptable programme this week. The principal turn is given by Mr Edward Neville and company, with the dramatic sketch *The Anarchist Terror*, which, among its many sensational features, introduces the electrocution chair. The general list of artistes includes Amy Donna, vocalist and dancer; Edward Raymond, M. James, Will White, G. Browne, Ben Brewe, Gus Bowering, and Bert Goldin.

LONGTON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. S. Howard.—Messrs Mitchell and Belton's company in *The Conscript* is here this week. Mr George Mitchell gives a telling impersonation of Karl Truevitch; Mr Fred H. Constable is a vigorous Count Paul; Mr John Belton as Dor Doggervitch is effective; the Ivan Manloff of Mr Walter Steele is manly; Miss Mary Dawson as Nadia Truevitch is most sympathetic; Little Elsie Baston as Little Karl meets with approval; and the lighter parts are acceptably filled by Mr. Frank Lilliput as Tretch Trotoff, and Miss Ivy Chandos as Wanda.

LLANELLY.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr John Tully.—The present season was brought to a most successful close on Monday evening with a benefit performance for the popular proprietor, Mr Tully. There was a big house and a carnival programme. All the leading professional artists in the neighbourhood lent a hand, and these included Miss Sarah Tydfil Lewis, the eminent soprano vocalist; Mr J. Brython Williams, the equally successful baritone soloist; Mr Moss Josephs, comedian and dancer; Mr W. Samuells, character comedian; Stifford, the well-known and clever juggler; Mr J. A. Maclaran, of Swansea, in a musical sketch; Mr D. J. Davies, tenor; Mr D. Thomas, violinist; Mr T. Wise, jun., 'cellist, &c. Mr Tully, assisted by Miss E. Marion Lewis, Mr Robt. H. Linn, and Mr Jack Aukland, appeared in a laughable new sketch. The stage was managed by Mr B. Percy Rees, and the musical arrangements were in the hands of Mr W. A. Totten.

LOWESTOFT.

MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Ernest A. Smith.—The attraction this week is the initial appearance of *Judy; or the Fatal Hand*, presented by Mr Geo. Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company. The interest in the piece is sustained throughout, the curtains being effective and the scenery all that can be desired. Mr Kirk's quiet, unobstrusive method admirably suits the cool, calculating American detective Grip, and his performance is very entertaining. Miss Mary Neil displays considerable talent in the dual-rôle of Alice, the victim, and Polly, the coster. Mr Carlton Wallace acts powerfully as Henry Duburg, and is well supported by Miss Muriel Thompson as the scheming Jenny Blake. Mr Robert Faulkner as Vincent Sterling is a manly lover, and the comic element is ably sustained by Mr Will Bereton (Jim) and Mr Fred May as Giggles, the drunken showman. In the title-rôle Miss Florrie Groves makes a decided hit.

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr Edmonstone Shirra.—Mr Kennedy Miller's company occupies the stage here this week in *The Shaughraun* and *Colleen Bawn*, the former play being very effectively presented on Monday evening before a small but interested audience. Mr James O'Brien gave a bright and vigorous delineation of Conn, Mr Frank Breen acting with distinction as Harvey Duff. Miss Monica Kelly gave a pleasing interpretation of Moya, and Miss Daisy Russell acted well in the part of Claire Ffolliot. Others who distinguished themselves in important parts were Mr Tom Ireland, Mr Albert Sinclair, Miss Helene Forest, and Mrs Glenville. Wednesday's performance of *Colleen Bawn* was entirely successful.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Manager-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr George Lee.—A capital performance of *Too Many Cooks* was given here on Monday by Messrs Wynn Weaver and T. W. Rawson's company, who are in Manchester for the first time with the piece. Monday's audience, though small, was delighted with the many amusing situations of this well-devised farcical comedy, Mr A. E. Wyn Weaver as Arthur Winton and Mr E. J. Fielding as Major Brasket contributing the bulk of the entertainment. Mr Brember Wills does well also in the strong part of John Bimbleby, Mr Kenneth Smith showing to advantage as Mr Jeal. The company includes Miss Lily Bertram in the part of Georgina Winton, this lady's efforts being capably supplemented by Miss Beth Elliott as Dora Brasket, Mr E. H. G. Cox as Alfred Ashurst, and Miss Daisy Milton as Susan. The farce is, by way of contrast, preceded by a rather lugubrious one-act play entitled *Under the Old Name*.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr H. M. Thorburn. — H. J. Byron's long-successful comedy *Our Boys* was presented here on Monday evening by Mr Thomas Thorne and his company. Needless to say, Mr Thomas Thorne's depiction of Perkyn Middlewick is vastly entertaining, excellent service being rendered also by Mr Philip Hewland, Mr Norman Clark, and Mr George Mudie, jun., in prominent rôles. Miss Edith Hesketh is highly diverting as Belinda, and Miss Marie Dennett does well as Mary Melrose. Mr Reginald A. Hunt, Miss Stewart Innes, and Miss Bessie Harrison complete a very able all-round cast. A comedietta precedes.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. — Highly satisfactory fare is provided here this week by Miss Winifred Maude's company in *The Sins of a City*. Miss Minifred Maude makes an admirable heroine, Mr Oswald Gray doing very well in the corresponding heroic part. Mr Royce Carleton makes the most of some fine opportunities as Donald M'Ivor; Mr J. W. Baxter does exceedingly well in the dual-rôles of Joe and Jasper Woodleigh; Miss Marie Lyons gives a capital rendering of Lesbia, the supposed wife of Ralph Blackwater, the latter part being vigorously played by Mr Aardale; and capable interpretations of more or less important rôles are given by Mr Reginald Green, Miss Eva Reed, Miss Agnes Norman, Mr Welbraque, Mr Victor Du Cane, and Mr W. E. Simpson.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Wm. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead. —A strong company is provided here this week, including Percy Honri, who is well received for his clever songs and concertina solos. The Four Arizonas are accomplished acrobats and contortionists; the Athlones give a marvellous exhibition of strength; Clown Barker provides plenty of amusement with his clever miniature circus; and Henri Bekker (assisted by Mdlle. Maie) is an expert comedy illusionist. Other enjoyable turns are the Condos, Japanese equilibrists; Will Percival, pedestal clog dancer; the Three Darrells, in a musical act; Coma, an accomplished juggler; the Pagolas, comedy acrobats; and Sadie Seymour, comedienne and dancer.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—An interesting moral drama, *The Sin of Her Childhood*, is the attraction here this week, played by a very able company under the management of Mr J. A. Campbell, the author of the play. Mr Campbell has on hand the prominent part of Captain John Thornton, which he renders in good style, Miss Mary Fulton sustaining the rôle of Mary Haysel with grace and distinction. Mr Austen Milroy contributes a good performance as Stephen Haysel. Little Dott Moss does very well also in the part of Hannah Spry, giving incidentally some enjoyable specialities on the banjo and in song and dance. Mr Chas. Fancourt's rendering of the Rev. Alan Grey and Mr Fred Elvin's Barney O'Reilly are among the good things of this entertaining drama, which holds the audience throughout and is capitally staged.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—This week's programme is headed by Juma's Octoroons, a troupe of juvenile minstrels, who sing, dance, and crack jokes in first-rate style. Launceston Elliott, the British monarch of muscle, gives an excellent exhibition of muscular feats, and is well received. The musical acrobatic displays of the Moxon Family are most enjoyable, and much laughter is caused by the Lavers and Lake sketch company, in *The Spectre of Mildew Chase*. Other entertaining turns are Sid Bandon, a good character vocalist; Frank Gee, comedian, with a quaint style; Shingleton, the singing collier, who has a good voice; Harry Meir, a smart comedy juggler; Minnie Palmerston, comedienne; and Walter Blake, comedian and dancer. The Hippodrome pictures complete.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Quite a galaxy of clever artists are here this week, foremost among whom are Ada Alexandra

and her merry Dutch girls in *Tante's Visit*, a well-received musical comedy. Max Sterling, illusionist, contrives with the simplest of accessories to completely mystify the audience, and Cyrus Dare, whose impersonations of little children meet with much favour, provides a refined turn of great merit. Mdlle. Flora Lumiere, "the Human Butterfly," dances gracefully amid a marvellous display of rich limelight colouring, and the banjo playing of Len Barry is much appreciated. A very versatile performance is that of the eccentric Clown Charlton; an interesting and pretty musical sketch entitled *The Heirloom* is offered by Lennie and Haste; and the Loma Trio repeat their gymnastic success of last week on the electrical revolving apparatus. Other turns are the Three Adriennes, lady vocalists, dancers, and whistlers; and Cliffe Dover, comedian. A series of animated pictures are also shown.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—Harriett Vernon, the peerless burlesque actress, is the bright particular star here this week, and meets with the usual hearty reception. Another excellent turn is Fred Earle, a first-rate eccentric comedian, whose capital songs and business cause much laughter. Oswald is an exceedingly clever hand balancer; Charles Norton, mimic, proves very popular; and Childie Stuart, the chic comedienne, is decidedly pleasing. Other enjoyable turns are Alice Ormonde, comedienne; Tina Reiff, comedienne; De Voy, Hurst, and Ricks, Negro comedians, who are very amusing; and Walter Purvis, comedian.

GRAND.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford and Will Sley; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—Considerable amusement is caused here this week by the Corty Brothers, in a clever comedy bar act and some capital burlesque wrestling. The Musical Avolos provide a delightful turn, and come in for well-merited applause. Other excellent turns are those of Harry Gray, who makes a decided hit in his comedy sketches from life; the Three Prestons, in an amusing sketch, introducing some good singing and dancing; and Mrs Richard Edgar and Mr Lionel Glenister, in *The Lady and the Parson*. The Arleys are clever comedy cyclists and acrobats; Vera Patey, comedienne, scores with a pleasing laughing song; Clarice Netta, soprano vocalist, sings well; and Burke and M'Voy are good in a tumbling act. The animated pictures complete.

PALACE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr P. Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—Fred Karno's speechless comedians are appearing here this week with their usual success in *Early Birds* and *Hilarity*. Leo Dryden, the well-known vocal character actor, makes a big hit with his latest song, "For Freedom and Japan"; and Drew and Alders, speciality comedians, cause endless amusement with their bill-posting business, eccentric dancing, and smart patter; Charles Mildare, king of whistlers, scores highly; and the Brothers Bellong are seen to advantage in a clever and sensational equilibristic bicycle melange. Other enjoyable items are Arthur Gilbert, comedian; Kisbey, "the call boy," an excellent dancer; Charles Pastor, comedian; and Amy Russell, vocalist. A delightful selection, "Recollections of Gounod," and a series of Palace pictures complete a capital programme.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—The New Century animated pictures are still attracting large and interested audiences, among the latest series being a number of scenes taken with the 2nd Manchester Volunteers in camp at Ramsey, Isle of Man.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson.—*Wepton-No-Mah*, presented by the American-Indian actress Miss Go-Won-Go Mohawk and company, is revisiting here this week. The title-rôle is capitally played by Miss Go-Won-Go Mohawk. Principals in the cast include Mr C. W. Charles as Colonel Stockton, Mr Charles A. Carlile as Manuel Lopes, Mr Theo Alker as Captain Franklin, Mr Guy D. Hackney as Sam White, Mr Dan Ryan as Garry Cullen, Miss Minnie Goepel as Nellie Stocton, and Miss Dorothy Neville as Matilda Sniffles. The drama is well staged.

MEXBOROUGH.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. H. Melton.—Messrs Fred Benton and Sydney Rennef's company is presenting *A Life's Story* here this week. Mr Sydney Rennef gives a clever interpretation of Frank Clifford; the Captain Temple of Mr Charles A. Leicester is a fine rendering; a powerful portraiture of Count Bergen is submitted by Mr Andrew Money; Mr Robert Purdie does well as Dr. Laffar; Mr G. Acton Dix is effective as Lieutenant Brassier; and Mr H. C. Lanceley capably enacts the rôle of the English detective, Tom Berry. Miss Amy Ellam scores a success in the character of the adventuress, Zeika; Miss Cora Linda gives sympathetic and graceful treatment to the part of Beatrice; and Miss Lillian Warren is an acceptable Rosa.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, the Middlesbrough Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs J. and C. Imeson.—At the Royal this week Mr John Tully's company in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is occupying the boards. As Uncle Tom Mr Kora Deanrajah makes a good impression; Eva is portrayed with refinement by Little Marie; Miss Kitty Wood as Topsy is a success, her songs being well rendered; and Cassy is in the capable hands of Miss Cissie Stephton. As George Harris Mr Edward Aldworth is given a cordial reception; and Miss Lillian Danby as Aunt Chloe is worthy of special mention.

OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED. — Proprietors, the Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Company, Ltd.; Licensee, Mr T. Hopnott—*Secrets*, under the direction of Mr Walter King, is the attraction at the Opera House, and is very well received by appreciative audiences. Mr Sidney C. Cranston as Lieutenant Herbert Markham, and Miss May Carlton as Ismalia sustain their respective parts with ability, and the Peter Wilkins of Mr Herbert Woodin and the Winnie Wilkins of Miss Molly Hackett keep the house in the best of humours. The Hon. Cecil Cholmondely is played well by Mr Karl H. Edwards, and Zuelleka is in the capable hands of Miss Elma C. Turner.

EMPIRE.— Managing-Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—Miss Ella and her troupe of lions occupy the top of the bill at this place of amusement. The performance is watched with delight and wonderment. Yamamoto and Koyosti, equilibrists, submit a sensational turn, and their feats on the perpendicular pole keep the audience spellbound. Joe Peterman's animated song-sheet, including Miss Nellie Lewis and Belle Braham, picture songstress, are as successful as ever. George Antill, in his latest success, creates much merriment, and the Avrignys, Japanese jugglers, get through some astonishing work. Miss Rosie Bartlett sings some charming songs; Johnny Gilmore is very successful; the Maples, dancers, come in for well-earned applause; and a capital series of animated pictures adds much to the enjoyment.

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr Wm. Robinson; Manager, Mr Wm. Ainsworth.—At this place of enjoyment Les Perez Troupe heads the bill in some clever feats on an unsupported ladder; *Monks at Play* is well acted by Lindon Vaudevilles; Marcus Boyle is a great success; Little Maud, singer and dancer, makes a good impression; and Sidney Lee, illusionist; Marie Wilton, dancer; Verren, contortionist; and J. G. Forde, character comedian, add much to the enjoyment.

NEW BRIGHTON.

TOWER THEATRE.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Albert Bulmer.—The bill is topped here this week by the real Chinese Princesses, Le-Hung-Foo and Muggino, marvellous foot equilibrists; Happy Attwood, the human oddity, in his comic baby impersonations, causes much amusement; the Solari Duo of operatic vocalists and instrumentalists are seen in a clever and refined entertainment; Law and Norman have a smart little comedy act, *On Active Service*; and Gertie Lytton, soubrette, and the Biograph with the latest interesting films complete a capital list of attractions.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr Fred C. Sutcliffe.—The Newcastle Amateur Operatic Society is this week in possession here, giving performances of *H.M.S. Pinafore* and *Trial by Jury*. As usual, the proceeds are devoted to charitable purposes, local benevolent institutions having already benefited to the extent of £560 as the result of similar performances since the society started operations some years ago. This year the operas have been rehearsed under the direction of the musical conductor, Mr Robert Smith, and the stage-manager, Mr Lindsay Harman. On Monday the performance afforded much pleasure to a large and appreciative audience, who warmly applauded the efforts of the principals and the admirable chorus. The augmented orchestra also did their important share of the work excellently.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr T. W. Rowe.—The entertainment here consists of the performance of the historical play *Jane Shore* by Mr Harry Foxwell's company. The piece is staged with commendable accuracy in the matter of costumes and scenic accessories. Miss Sheila Walsh in the title-part acts with strong feeling, and depicts the woes of the unhappy Jane in a realistic manner. A fine piece of acting is supplied by Mr Harry Foxwell, who presents the character of the Duke of Gloucester with excellent effect. Supporting them is a capable company, and their united efforts result in a praiseworthy representation of the well-known play.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Ernest W. Bacon.—The last three weeks of this house prior to its conversion into a music hall are announced. This week Mr J. F. Elliston's company is appearing in *The Octoroon*. The company is headed by Miss Ada Elliston, who as Zoe gives a sympathetic rendering of the part. Miss Amy Hermann as Dora Sunnyside is also exceedingly good. Miss Edith Halford as Mrs Peyton makes an acceptable widow; the Indian chief Wah-no-tee is well portrayed by Mr Lonnen Meadows, an old favourite; and another old favourite, Harry Leander, is a most humorous Pete. Mr Frank Strickland as George Peyton, Mr Eric Hudson as Jacob M'Clusky, and Mr Stephen Ewart as Salem Scudder all contribute to the great success. There are several clever specialities and some good dancing and singing, and there is also a cake-walk competition for valuable prizes.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—The remarkable performance given by Woodward's sea lions and seals is again creating much interest and astonishment here. Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts give satisfaction in their comedy sketch, *The Infant*, and they introduce some particularly clever clog dancing. An always enjoyable act is that presented by Starr and Leslie, who as comedy artistes and jugglers win warm approval. Harry Freeman sings two songs, to the evident pleasure of the audience, and Ethel Ra-Leslie is applauded for her rendering of "I dreamt I dwelt." The Bros. Redmond are an entertaining pair of eccentric comedians, and a success is scored by the Norman Leonard Trio, musical sketch artists. A clever and graceful trapeze act is contributed by the Trentanovi Sisters, and the serpentine dances of La Berat are remarkable for the lovely colours which are thrown on the draperies of the dancer. Marion Scott, comedienne; and Jack Charman, the sweet-voiced youth, are also included in the programme.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr Will H. Boardman.—A sensational item here is Staig's motor-racing in mid-air. Three gentlemen and one lady perform the feat of racing on bicycles and motors round a suspended bottomless track, and this daring exhibition arouses excitement. A notable success is secured by the Harvey Boys, comedians and boxers, in their entertaining sketch *The Fighting Dummy*. De Henau shows what it is possible to do with the use of his toes, as he paints pictures, eats and drinks, and shuffles cards by this means. A hearty reception is accorded F. V. St. Clair, who makes a speciality of topical songs and recitations. Morcaschali (la belle Creole) affords unmistakable pleasure by her several vocal efforts. Skilled acrobats in the Patty Franks Troupe are cheered for their fine performance. Will Godwin, the vocal actor, and Jack and Evelyn, song and dance artists, also make acceptable contributions to the programme.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Sidney Cooper.—Mr H. Armitage's company is producing here this week the revised and rewritten version of *East Lynne*. Mr Kennedy as Archibald Carlyle portrayed the devoted husband with much feeling; Miss Haidee Wright as Lady Isabel was very effective and realistic; Miss Jessie Winter's fine presence and quiet, natural manner ensured the success of her representation of Barbara Hare; and Miss Julie Kennard as Cornelia Carlyle was amusing. Francis Levison was impersonated by Mr Cecil Elgar with considerable power; Mr A. Gambier Melford was a great success as Justice Hare; Richard Hare was in the capable hands of Mr Stanley Harrison; Mr Llewellyn Thomas provided an original character sketch as Lawyer Dill; to the laughable and comical part of Police-constable Bullock full justice was done by Mr George M'Kenzie; and Miss Lilian Mason successfully portrayed the devoted servant Joyce.

EMPIRE.—Moss's Empires, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr O. Stoll.—Mark Sheridan, a popular favourite, is warmly received here; the Poluski Brothers produce genuine and hearty laughter; and Stelling and Revell, a pair of clever comedians on the bar, are applauded; Griff introduces some funny original patter; the Sisters Govell sing duets in capital style; and Cabaret introduces a number of clever dogs. The Lyons Trio, in dumb pantomime; Will Johnson, a singer of merit; and Daisy Martell, a dainty comedienne, complete the bill.

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr W. J. Andrews. — Mr John Hare is here this week in the comedy-drama entitled *The Golden Chance*, supported by a capable company, of which Mr Herbert M. King, Mr Tom Denbigh, Mr Hill Cremer, Mr John A. Stimpson, Miss Agatha Halford, Miss Irene Clifford, Miss Jenny Hallworth, and Miss Helen Waring were the most commendable.

NEW PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Goodwin Woodward.—The novelty this week is Les Surpriskis, a duo of graceful and daring lady gymnasts. Other commendable turns include Rice, Rose, Davis, and the Half; Jonathan, speciality dancer; the Sisters Hypatia, a pleasing pair of serios; Bella Moody, male impersonator; the Ashers, in a spicy little act; Charles Cork, comedian; Elsa Brull, a charming vocalist; Lanton and Lane, comedians; and the Brewaters.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr Douglas Bruce's company occupies the boards this week with *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Miss Nellie Oliver gives a realistic portrayal of the difficult part of Barbara Wade; Mr W. E. Griffiths does well as John Meadows; Mr George Gaisford is a manly Jack Livingstone; Mr Will Corrie is a droll Toby; and Miss Gladys Newcombe is effective as Tilly Vane.

NORTH SHIELDS.

BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee.—Miss Rosalind Scott-Watson's company opened here on Monday with *The Scarlet Woman*. The character of Marie Brandon is in the able hands of Miss Scott-Watson, who is responsible for a clever impersonation; and Mr Wolstan Forster puts in some good work as Will Raymond. Mr Ernest J. Fare ably represents Richard Marchant; Mr Reginald Fox scores heavily as Philip Gordon. Miss Rosalie Heath is smart as Margery Honor, Miss Ruby Hamilton as Charlotte Simpkins, Miss Mable Tremere as Fanchette, and Mr Harry Cooke as Samuel Hopkins put plenty of life into their work, and cause hearty laughter. *Trilby* and *East Lynne* have also been produced during the week.

NEW CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Wm. Mould.—Miss Lily Marney, character comedienne, is at the top of the bill, and has scored heavily. Messrs Ike Scott and Son, comedians, have made a great hit, and Lohrenz Fenello, juggler and weight-lifter, gives a clever performance, which wins him loud applause. The Ashtons, duettists and dancers, are entertaining, and Miss Abbie Hayter, comedienne and dancer; and the Bio-Photoscope is also well received.

NORWICH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Manager, Mr Fred Morgan.—Mr Frederick Thorne's No. 1 company is here this week, in *Little Miss Nobody*. Mr H. C. Barry as Christopher Potter creates great fun, his song "Caroline" being vociferously encored. Mr Willie Hartill makes the most of his part as the Earl of Cripplegate. Mr Dennis Drew is excellent as Guy Cheviot, whilst Mr Percy Barrow is amusing as Gussie Stilton. Mr C. F. Cooke is very good as Dominie Crocket; Mr H. E. Garden deserves commendations as Dandy Triplet; and Mr Jas. J. Jordan submits a capital sketch of Joch Jamieson. Miss Alma Allen is charming as Lady Cheviot Stilton, and Miss Dorothy Maxwell appears as Violet. Miss Molly Tremayne as Lady Gwendoline, Miss Jessica Dent as Lady Geraldine, and Miss Perry as Lady Marjoline. Miss Mabel Dent is excellent as Maggie; Miss Dora Dent as Tiny Triplet, Miss Clara Vanini as Tootsie Triplet proves an excellent danseuse; Miss Lily Edmunds as Elsie Crocket, Little Miss Nobody, is very charming, and her songs much appreciated; Miss Nellie Bowman as Trixie Triplet is a warm favourite, not only for her dances but her songs, and keeps the house alive. The chorus and band are under the hands of Mr Spencer Dickinson.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr F. W. Fitt; Musical Director, Captain Selby.—Large and appreciative audiences testify to the strength of the programme. The Three Rickards head the bill and contribute their very clever acrobatic entertainment. J. A. Cassels, Scotch comedian, is well received; Towyn Thomas and party, the Royal Welsh singers, meet with a hearty reception; Major Moss and Son, vocal scenic artistes, are excellent; the Brothers Onda in a nautical comedy act, *On Deck*, combine fun and skill; whilst Stanley and Greenup are clever banjoists. Joe Archer receives well-merited applause for his funny songs and stories; Herbert Le Martine is a smart bâton spinner; and Carola's Miniature Circus of ponies, dogs, goats, cats, &c., is a pleasing turn. The orchestra, under the bâton of Captain Selby, contribute much to the entertainment, and fully deserve mention.

NOTTINGHAM.

GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr Charles P. Cooke.—The representation of *A Wrecker of Men* is giving great satisfaction here, and Mr C. Watson Mill's company puts in some excellent work. Mr Mill has a powerful part in Jim Murley, which brings out all his fine histrionic ability. Mr Sydney Fiennes makes a weird but earnest figure as the silent servant. Mr Charles Yorke is effective as Pharosaphus, and Mr Alfred Maurice acts with care as Guise Strange. Mr T. W. Hurst as Ezekiel Isaacs, and Mr Chapin Montague as Eric Melville accomplish their tasks with distinction, and Mr Mac J. Cumming is to be complimented on his impersonation of the Hon. Reggie Verincourt. Miss Rosalind Tate's study of Risca Mallinson is sufficiently realistic to suit the most exacting. Miss Muriel Dean plays Doris Melville in a sweet and attractive manner, and Miss Kitty Melville is a lively Vavasole Sloper.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Geo. H. Beagle.—*Her One Great Sin* forms a very strong drama, and is exceedingly well played by Miss St. Albans and Mr J. L. Jackson's company. Mr Sam Arthur's robust style is well fitted to portray the part of Reuben Warhurst; Mr J. L. Jackson conveys the correct idea of the villainy of Arnold Thornhill; Mr Chas. E. Lambert is a capital representative of Dan Hundle; and Miss Louie Walton effectively enacts the cruel and vindictive character of Bet Hundle. Miss Blanche St. Albans calls forth much sympathetic interest by her charming and tender embodiment of Grace Warhurst; Miss Phyllis Damian as Charlie and Miss Maudie Lambert as Gracie fill their rôles well; and the comedy element owes much to the lively interpretations of Miss Nellie Lambert (Nancy) and Mr Fred Hodson (Jumble). Mention should also be made of Messrs Harold B. Ford, F. Wright, Tom Pollard, and C. D. Pollard.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—There is a brightness and drollery about the turn of George Spry and Florrie Austin that always commend it to audiences here, and their reception on Monday was hearty in the extreme. Foreman and Fannan again achieve a huge success by their quaint patter; the musical items of Signor and Madame Borelli are cleverly executed; the Miles-Stavordale Quintet are also recipients of an ovation for a delightful instrumental interlude; Austin Rudd's contributions are duly rewarded; and the Mayvilles evoke applause for a dainty novelty. May Henderson's popularity increases each visit, and her vivacious method gains vociferous plaudits. The Bioscope shows some excellent films of Russian troops, and also local pictures. The Albert and Edmunds troupe causes uproarious laughter by the sketch *A Trip to Boulogne*. The Swickards' comedy singing act and the dancing of Vi Holmes complete a good all-round programme.

OLDHAM.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr Hulme.—A well-presented melodrama, *The Greatest Scoundrel Living*, is here this week. The author, Mr M'Leod Loader, has not spared the sensational element. Mr Jack Haddon appears with his accustomed success as the hero, Frank Fielding; Mr Norman A. Overton is fully appreciated; Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam acts with admirable expression as Rosa Moulton; Miss Beatrice Western is a success as Mabel Cross; Miss Lottie Pearce, a vivacious soubrette, is well received; and Messrs Jack Lennol and Bernard Dunstan are chiefly responsible for the comic element.

GAIETY, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr E. J. Dexter.—The very good programme presented here this week includes Miss Flo Wood, vocalist; Pat Carey, a popular comedian; the Two Gems, in a good turn of singing and dancing; York, Mac, and York, with act entitled *Widow Mac's Troublesome Boys*; the Orans, a marvellous acrobatic turn; Haroldo, equilibrist, who is a great success; and the Brothers Hannaway, comedians and dancers, who create roars of laughter. The Bioscope is presenting an attractive series of new pictures.

ROYAL, LIMITED. — Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr George Knowles.—Mr Fred Karno's *Dandy Thieves* is a strong attraction here. The principal part of Sergeant Lightning is humorously played by Mr Harry Roxbury, and Lady Maud is ably played by Miss Lenora Castelle. The Grecian Comedy Quintet sing some good selections, and Miss Lily Morris, comedienne; Fred Terry, comedian; Young Codge, a clever whistler; Andrew Higginson, vocalist; and the Two Tees, musical eccentric comedy artistes, also contribute.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr C. C. Dorrill.—This week Mr F. R. Benson is paying a successful return visit, and the spontaneous and hearty welcome accorded him on Monday night by a crowded house when he first appeared in *The Rivals* must have assured him of the sure and firm hold he has over his many admirers here. Mr Benson played Captain Absolute with an artistic finish and natural vein that carried all before him; Mr Cyril Keightley was altogether excellent as the Irishman Sir Lucius O'Trigger; Mr G. R. Weir, as always, convulsed his audience with laughter as Bob Acres, full as ever of humorous business; Mr Arthur Whitby was well suited as Sir Anthony Absolute; and Mr W. Hampden was an excellent Falkland. Mrs F. R. Benson scored a striking success as Lydia Languish; Julia and Lucy were played in delightful fashion by Miss Mabel Moore and Miss Leah Hanman; and Miss Alice Denvil made the very best of all the good things spoken by Mrs Malaprop. On Tuesday *The Winter's Tale* drew a full and highly-pleased house, the week's programme including *Richard II.*, *Othello*, and the Orestean Trilogy of Æschylus.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells.—Messrs Wilford Bailey and Harwood Cooper's company is here with *The Girl of To-day*. Mr Wilfred Bailey is the fun and soul of the piece as Sullivan, and Mr Harwood Cooper is capable as Robin. Mr C. Anderson makes a genial Mr Leslie, while Mr H. Barrington does well as Leonard Mortimer. Mr James Finch is very humorous as Mr Armstrong, and Mr Clifford Taylor is successful as Luke Leslie. Mr Cecil Barrett has a good reception for his quaint and interesting portrayal of Toby Dawson. Miss Florence Lovell is good as Joan Leslie, and Miss Nellie Fern is an excellent Mrs Dawson. Miss Lily Beverley is a charming and vivacious Dolly. The music is arranged by Mr Thos. M. Tunbridge, who is also the composer of the song "The Star of Love," which is artistically rendered by Miss Lily Beverley.

PAISLEY.

PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile.—*The Slave Girl*, performed by Messrs Jerold Heather and Geo. A. De Gray's company, forms the attraction here this week. Mr Geo. A. De Gray plays with histrionic ability as Captain Edward Hamilton, whilst the villainy of Crawford is well depicted by Mr Jerold Heather. Miss Evelyn Marrable acts in a sympathetic manner and intelligently as Esther. The humorous element is capitally sustained by Miss Cissy Cleveland as Angelina and Mr Arthur Stratton as Noah B. Smart. Mr Robert Barton capably acts Mr Hamilton; the Dr. Fielding of Mr Harry Turner is a good assumption; and Mr J. L. Edmonde is meritorious as Bill. Capital representations are submitted by Miss Ollie Smith as Luce, Miss Florrie Cornwall as Nellie Hamilton, and Miss Etta Turner as Mrs Hamilton.

PERTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Aldridge.—Mr A. Clifton Alderson with his excellent company is giving a powerful representation of *The New Magdalen* here. Mr Alderson as Julian Gray is highly appreciated; Mr William Brandon as Horace Holmcroft acts his part with much earnestness; Mr F. W. Waller is seen to advantage as Surgeon Wetzell; as also are Messrs A. F. Norman and H. F. Wright as Captain Anicult and Henrie respectively. Miss F. Conyers Radcliffe as Mercy Merrick displays no mean powers as an actress in the most trying rôle of a New Magdalen. Miss Dora Heritage does well in the character of Lady Janet Roy, and Miss Billie Doyle ably takes the part of the weaker-natured Grace Roseberry. The minor parts are successfully sustained by Messrs A. Dudley and T. Weyman as Max and the servant respectively.

PLYMOUTH.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr Percy Williams; Assistant-Manager, Mr Langdon Lee.—From *A Trip to Chinatown* Mr Leslie Norman's company extract all the fun possible. Mr Charles Sequin as Welland Strong is a host in himself; Mr Jerrold Manville as the gay bachelor is equally successful and popular; Miss Harriet Fawn as the captivating widow is much at home in dance and song, and looks and acts her part well; Miss Dorothy Vicott as the maid is a great favourite, her dancing being capital; and a word of praise is due to the Canadian Belles, who present a clever cake walk exhibition. The parts taken by Messrs Leslie Austin, Will Smith, F. Bousfield, and Ewart Francis-Drake could not be in more capable hands.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr A. Carlton; Manager, Mr Louis Karpe.—The D'Oyly Carte opera company is here this week. On Monday *The Mikado* was the piece presented. Mr Padle Ripple as Nanki-Poo found much favour, both his singing and acting being much appreciated; Mr Frank Wilson as the Mikado of Japan is gifted with a good voice and a quiet, droll manner; Mr G. Villiers Arnold's impersonation of Ko-Ko gave it rather more than its usual share of prominence; Mr Fred Billington's Poo-Bah was as successful as ever; and as Pish-Tush Mr Fred Drawater was equally meritorious. As Yum-Yum Miss Nora Maquire played with bewitching charm; as did Miss Jessie Rose and Miss Nancy Freyne as Petti-Sing and Peep-Bo respectively, both being coquettish and extremely dainty. The part of Katisha was entrusted to Miss Theresa Rassam, who has a commanding presence and a wonderful voice. The chorus and staging are in keeping with the general excellence.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Brothers; Resident-Manager, Mr John Field.—To Mr R. A. Roberts, the famous Protean actor, is allotted the premier position here this week. Other acceptable turns are Bella and Bijou, who are retained from last week. The Bros. Hayes, cross-talkers and dancers; Mr Arthur Melrose in whistling songs; Little Dando, a popular diminutive comedian; Mr Andy Burn, comedian and dancer; Terry and Bentley in a new comedy *The Hunt*; Watts and Hardy, patter comedians and dancers; and Miss Janet Howard Reynolds, ballad vocalist.

PORTH.

POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE. — Manager, Mr W. Bynorth.—This week a variety company occupies the boards here. Capital turns are given by Miss Queenie Gold, serio; Mr Fred Carlisle, character comedian; Eugene and Willie, musical and acrobatic artistes; Harry Raymond, expert dancer; Reen and Rhine, knockabouts; the Steindales, in illustrated songs; the Royal Comedy Four; and Golden and St. Clair, cake-walk exponents; and an excellent variety of animated pictures shown by the Imperial Bioscope.

PORTSMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Bell.—This week we have a return visit of the farcical comedy, *The Lady of Ostend*. It has been well rendered and staged, and good houses have been the result. Miss Dorothy Vacey in the title rôle was very much appreciated; Miss Kate Milford as the aggrieved wife, Dorothy Whortles, did well; the mother-in-law, Matilda Carbury, was efficiently acted by Miss Amy Singleton. Mr Dan F. Roe was responsible for the unlucky Dick Whortles, and Mr Percy Marshall as Joseph Carbury was very amusing. Mr Lawrence Brough made a capital Baron De Longueville, and Toby Krockitt was ably acted by Mr Edmund Gurney.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr T. E. Agate.—On Monday Miss Frances Delaval and company opened here with *The Biggest Scamp on Earth*. Mr Fred Emery in the name part acts very creditably indeed. Naomi Belvedere. The music hall artiste impersonated by Miss Frances Delaval is a capital performance; the Mother Hawke of Miss Rose Vernon Paget is ably enacted; and the same may be said of Mr Alfred Rousby in the part of Napoleon Hawke.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—A strong and varied bill is drawing good houses here. The equestrian comedy sketch, by Fred Ginnett and company, entitled *Rejected Remounts*, is much liked and is very creditably done; the Five Delevines, in their pantomimical musical melange, *Flirtation*, submit a very pleasing item; Alix Lukos, actor-vocalist, is in great demand; and Nellie Coleman, eccentric comedienne, is another good turn, her make-up being excellent. Ferris and Farnley, speciality artists, do their business to the entire satisfaction of the audience; Dome, the comedy clay modeller, is very clever; and Percy Cahill, comedian; the Sisters Morgan, duettists and dancers; and Nancy St. John, comedienne and danseuse, complete the programme.

PEOPLE'S PALACE. — Proprietor, Mr Frank Pearce.—An attractive programme is offered here this week. Messrs Ainslie, Elvin, and Co., appear in a sketch, *A Daughter's Honour*, which proves very acceptable; Mr Phil Roxby, one-legged dancer, has quite an ovation; Vincent and Ashwell, variety artists, are very entertaining; Miss Sadie Bush, contralto, is a pleasing turn; and the Sisters Corosko, balancers and jugglers; Will Pherson, and the Wrights also appear.

RADCLIFFE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Geo. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr Jas. Boothman.—A crowded house assembled on Mr Santé's fifth annual benefit on Monday evening, and the twenty-six items constituting the vaudeville programme included Messrs Palles and Cussick, comedians; Miss Lalla Cowell and Matt Melrose, American cake-walkers; Harry Bent, mimic; Harry Sutton, the laughing comedian; Allen and White, grotesque acrobats; Professor Scott, conjuror; Professor T. C. Garland, ventriloquist; Miss Winnie Scott, soubrette and dancer; the Kelsons, sketch artistes; the Leonard Trio, Joe Lawrence, the marvellous dancer; Leon and May, juvenile dancers; Albert Ventnor, comedian; Joe Harwood, prize humorist; Nellie Paver, ballad vocalist; Miss Minnie Leslie and Mr John Cecil in a sketch; Miss Marie Winsome, male impersonator; and last, but not least, Miss Daisy De Roy, who all contributed to a successful performance, which also included a cake-walk competition open to amateurs. Mr S. Nutter proved an able stage-manager.

RAMSGATE.

AMPHITHEATRE. — Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr Henry Bowman.—Mr H. Fuller's company is here in the drama *Fiends of London*. Among the many effective situations of the play is a realistic sporting scene. Specialities of a clever character are introduced into the piece, and the "lethal chamber" incident is well received. Bob Archer, a jockey, is admirably impersonated by the author of the drama (Mr Herbert Fuller); while good work is contributed by Mr Hugh Carmichael as a military veteran. Sophie Shade, a gipsy, is a rôle which gives Miss Collier a first-rate opportunity of displaying her ability as an actress of power and experience.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr W. F. Barnett.—Messrs J. F. Preston and P. E. Doherty's company introduced *Lady Godiva* on Monday evening. Miss Hilda Shirley in the title-rôle gave a charming impersonation, and was ably supported by a talented combination. Miss Georgie Walton as Lady Aldyth and Miss Nina Westerleigh as Elfrida deserved credit, and Mr F. B. Woulfe as Tom o' Coventry was worthy of special mention. Mr Alfred D. Adams as Leofric, Mr James E. Page as Algra, Mr Hardy Macro as Unwolf Unwolfson, and Mr W. Howard Barlow as Edgar rendered valuable assistance in their respective parts.

RHYL.

QUEEN'S PALACE.—Manager, Mr P. J. Ashfield; Secretary, Mr E. W. Parry. — Topping the bill here is Barney Stuart, the popular Protean artiste, whose several impersonations are nightly enjoyed. Marie Reeve gives some clever imitations of coloured artistes. Learto, with his performing dog Babs, appears in a musical act. Hettie Lind possesses a sweet, melodious voice. Little Beattie fully deserves the applause she receives for her song and dance. The Sisters Bartholomew, duettists, remain from last week, and add to their popularity.

PIER PAVILION. — Lessees, Messrs Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr A. R. Sutcliffe. — An enjoyable programme is given here this week. David Poole gains applause for his clever ventriloqual act. Frank Hook, comedian; Daisy Lake, soprano; Tom Neildon, comedian; Herbert Courteny, tenor; A. R. Sutcliffe, comedian; and A. W. Parry, pianist, also contribute.

ROCHDALE.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Resident Manager, Mr Charles Cliucas.—*The Traitor Prince* is the attraction here this week. Mr E. Carter Livesey powerfully sustains the part of Prince Rao; Mr Joseph Carter submits a manly interpretation of Lieut. Frank Derrick; Mr George V. Campbell is most amusing as Billy Bright; Mr G. Montanini as Vavasour Dalrymple and Mr Tom Roydan as Cara each sustains his part with good effect; Mr Austin H. Longford's efforts in the dual-rôal of Richard Vane and Colonel Vane are successful; Miss Lilian Rosebery wins all hearts as Lola Vane; Miss Beatrice M. Anderson acts with power and skill the part of Vashti; and Miss Emmeline Lewes makes a lively and vivacious Pansy Blossom.

ROCK FERRY.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr Victor Wallace.—Paul Mill's comedy concert party is the attraction this week, and they provide a most enjoyable programme. Mr Paul Mill, of "Penny Whistler" popularity, is a host in himself. Miss Haidee St. George has a pleasing soprano, and her selections are carefully rendered. Mr Ambrose Thorne and G. G. Taylor provide some excellent comedy, and Miss Idris Perkins, Miss Ethel Stapley, and Miss Mary Thorne contribute very effectively.

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director-Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—Miss M. B. Buckstone and Mr J. K. Cox and company are here this week for the first time with *The Seal of Silence*. Mr Henry Lonsdale is a manly Jack Ellerslie; Mr Fred L. Moore gives a careful rendering of the part of Kenneth Morrison; Mr Franklyn Graham as Captain Hedley Norman, the villain, is received with marked disapproval; and Mr Edward S. Petley is seen to advantage as Geoffrey Merrington. Mr Arrol Aldersyde as Dr. Mark Renwood gives a clever portrayal; Mr J. Cledon Salter is very funny as Bunbo Britton; Miss Lucy Covent y is sprightly as Dora Lumley; and Little Violet Du Cane speaks her lines with much intelligence. Miss Mary B. Buckstone is pleasing

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE GRAND.

On Monday, June 6, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled "A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."

Mr Walter Melville's drama, which was produced at the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, on Whit Monday, is a worthy successor to a series of plays which have come from the same facile pen. In each of these productions the author has chosen as the leading character a woman who, to put it as mildly as possible, is not a credit to her sex. It is somewhat of a relief to find that Hilda Valley is not nearly so wicked as the vicious females who have been prominent in Mr Melville's previous plays She is not by any means "the worst woman in London," and is more a creature of circumstances than a being who is depraved beyond redemption. She started badly, and she might, she says, have been a different woman had the man she really loved, who ruined and left her, made her his wife. After this unhappy beginning Hilda Valley became reckless, unscrupulous, and wholly deceptive in her dealings with men. She goes through a form of marriage with two young fellows, her object being solely a mercenary one, and meeting them both again years after leads to awkward complications. She has an illegitimate daughter whom she passes off as her cousin, but eventually she has to admit to the girl herself that she is "a child of shame," whereupon Mabel tells her mother what she thinks of her in pretty plain terms. However, the fortunate discovery that David Carrington, a retired merchant, is the man who abandoned her years ago, and is, moreover, the father of the child, saves the situation; and the problem as to whether "a bad woman can make a good wife" seems likely to be satisfactorily solved. Miss O'ga Audre, who has had considerable experience in the portrayal of wicked women in Mr Melville's dramas, again scores by her embodiment of Hilda Valley, the adventuress, whose strongly expressed opinion is that "all men are blackguards." In the earlier scenes Miss Audre plays with animation and spirit, but at the end of the third act where she pleads to David Carrington for mercy, and later when she recognises him as her betrayer, her acting is particularly powerful and effective. Mr Cecil A. Melton sustains with earnestness and force the part of Jack Dawes, who falls in love with Mildred Carrington, a rôle that is charmingly played by Miss Kate Hallam. Mr Cyril Vernon is well placed as Arnold Travers, who, under the belief that he cannot marry Mabel Valley, takes to dissipated courses. Mr Julian Cross acts with his usual skill the part of Jules Delarnet, a Frenchman whose mission it is to shamelessly blackmail the other characters, but who meets with well-deserved punishment at the end. Mr Algernon Syms, who for so many years was the leading actor at the Britannia Theatre, is excellent as David Carrington, and the unimportant rôle of Dexter, a detective, receives careful treatment from Mr Julian Bainbridge. Miss Dorothy Drake is a pleasing representative of Mabel Valley. A good deal of the success of the play depends upon the efforts of Mr Harry Brayne and Miss Eva Dare. This couple play the parts of Barnaby Mugg, a dog fancier and his wife, Bella. Mr Brayne is exceedingly comical as "the doggy man," taking advantage of every opportunity to make the audience laugh, and always succeeding in his object. His struggles with a sportive bulldog on Monday doubtless constituted an unrehearsed effect, but they were none the less amusing. In the later scenes Barnaby was accompanied by dogs of much quieter demeanour. Miss Eva Dare is a lively representative of Bella, and the manner in which she punishes the Frenchman for presuming to make love to her causes roars of laughter. Miss Hettie Cornwallis supplies a neat sketch of an Irish landlady, and Miss Kate Withers, Mr Fred Elsworthy, Mr G. Shatter, and others assist in minor rôles.

Mr George Davey, always anxious to provide additional attractions for his patrons, has this week engaged a specially selected troupe from the Mohawk-Moore and Burgess Minstrels, constituting "London's only minstrel show." On Monday night after the opening chorus Mr Fred Temple sang "I remember" with good effect, and Mr Billy Romer scored with his rendering of "The Dixey Queen." Mr Bob Gates sang "A Soldier's Song" successfully, and Mr M'Nab gave a capital rendering of "Loch Lomond;" Little Thomas made a great hit with "What's yer number, Pompey Gray?" The glee "The Dear Little Shamrock" was well sung by Messrs Fred Temple, Charles James, Paul Galois, and H. Theodore. The Minstrel show, which has already proved popular, is given in addition to the excellent series of Biograph pictures.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, June 6, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Frank Lindo, entitled "HOME, SWEET HOME."

The performance of *Home, Sweet Home*, by Mr Frank Harding's company, is meeting with every success here this week. The play is followed with close attention, and as the various chapters of the story are unfolded, laying bare the inward workings of the hearts of those whose paths in life we follow, the interest increases, and the appreciation shown from time to time is fully deserved in every way. Mr Vernon Sansbury gives a fine performance as Stephen Armitage, playing with great skill and showing decided ability. Great praise is due to Mr Frank Lindo for his fine delineation of the old man, David Armitage. His reading of the rôle is exceptionally good, and his acting is forcible and impressive. Mr W. G. Blunt plays well and with the due amount of dignity as the Duke of Ancaster. As the Hon. Percy Ashfield Mr Harry Barford is droll and acceptable; Mr Frank Harding supplies a vigorous portrayal of Lucas Lyle, the villain, and is very successful; Mr Fred Withers is a satisfactory Solomon Keary; whilst Mr George Overs gives a careful and good assumption of the part of Dick Redmayne. Mr Lionel Gilette is well placed as Gaffer and Mr H. Grossmith is suitably cast as the Marquis of Silvermore; Miss Nannie Meade makes a charming and vivacious Sybil Fay, and Miss Annie Travers is all that can be desired as Lady Summerton. Dora, the child, is sweetly and capably portrayed by Miss S. Berzant; Miss Louisa Peach, who is well known in this part of London owing to her long connection as leading lady with the Britannia Theatre, plays the rôle of Joan with conspicuous ability. She carefully contrasts her moments of happiness and remorse, and contributes an excellent performance deserving of high praise.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, June 6, the Play, in Five Acts, entitled "TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

Two Little Vagabonds is being played here this week by Hardie and Von Leer's original company, and an excellent house on Monday testified to the enduring popularity of this fine domestic play. The details of the drama are too well known to need recapitulation, and it is only necessary to state that the incidents are capitally portrayed by the capable company under the direction of Mr James M. Hardie; whilst the half-humorous, half pathetic utterances of the two waifs, Dick and Wally, are still a constant source of delight to the audience. It would be difficult to improve upon Miss Valerie Crespin's Marion Thornton. The excellent way in which she sustains this character, which requires very careful treatment, is deserving of great praise Miss Louie Codman acts with unaffected and natural simplicity as the erring Barbara Scarth, whose past proves how persons bring so much trouble on a happy household. Miss Marie Pritchard plays the bibulous Biddy Higgins on broadly humorous lines, causing much amusement in all her scenes. Mr Lauderdale Maitland makes a powerful George Thornton, his mad jealousy and grief being portrayed with artistic severeness; and Captain Darville is played in an earnest and manly style by Mr Morrice Holmes. That laughter-provoking rascal, Bill Mullins, the Gaffer, is capitally and characteristically rendered by Mr Fred Dobell, whilst his associates in crime are carefully contrasted by Mr C. P. Amalia as Dido Bunce and Mr Fred Archer as "the Cough-drop." Mr Jack Royal scores as Leeson, his death-scene being very striking; and the selfish John Scarth receives adequate treatment from Mr Simon D'Ord. Mr Hugh Hollman is successful as Joe Gargoyle, the sexton; whilst good work is done by Miss Viola March as Sister Randall, Miss Violet Ingram as a maidservant, Mr Harry Reynolds as Hargitt, Mr Thomas Blakeman as Dr. Lynn, Mr Henry Buckland as Wiffin, and Mr Malcolm Gatland as the footman. The rôles of the two waifs are ably interpreted by Miss Eva Norman as Dick and Miss Effie Dane as Wally. The latter lady plays the part of the delicate boy with a pathetic and artistic touch, at the same time with a full appreciation of the lighter side of the character; whilst the bright, alert, and sturdy Dick is acted with much spirit by Miss Eva Norman. The scenery and mounting are all that can be desired.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, June 6, the Play, in Four Acts, by William Gillette and Sir A. Conan Doyle, entitled "SHERLOCK HOLMES."

This week Mr William Bailey has presented his patrons with Charles Frohman's company in the well-known play *Sherlock Holmes*. As the astute detective Sherlock Holmes, Mr H. A. Saintsbury played in that cool, calculating manner that one associates with that popular hero of fiction. His every gesture and movement proved how much the subtleties of the character had appealed to him, until they had become, as it were, a part of himself. Another excellent performance was that of Mr Kenneth Rivington as Doctor Watson, who proved himself to be an actor of infinite resource. As Professor Moriarty Mr Robert Forsyth was responsible for a painstaking piece of work, his playing of the part denoting careful study and attention, whilst Mr Charles Grey was admirable as the persevering John Forman; Mr Ernest Ruston did exceedingly well as James Larrabee; Mr Pelham Rayner may be commended for his Sydney Prince; and Master Charles Chaplin was an especial favourite as the wide-a-wake, quick-witted boy Billy. Miss Lucie Milner sustained the rôle of Alice Faulkner with much delicacy of expression coupled with true womanly instincts, with the result that she quickly the sympathy of the house. Miss Violet Lewis acted in brisk and telling fashion as Madge Larrabee. Other parts were capably handled by Messrs Harold Boughton, Sidney Chaplin, H. S Davis, W. F. Stirling, James F. Anson, M. M Loomis, and Mesdames Marriette Hyde, Nellie Clyde, and Dorrie Roberts Mr Douglas Miller is the acting-manager for Mr Frohman and Mr James Sinclair has looked after Mr Bailey's interest in the front of the house in his accustomed genial and courteous way.

THE SURREY.

On Monday, June 6, the American Drama, in Five Acts, by S. F Cody, entitled "THE KLONDYKE NUGGET."

Mr S. F. Cody's talented combination of artists, sharpshooters, and performing horses is paying a visit here this week in his strong American melodrama, *The Klondyke Nugget*, which has proved highly acceptable to Mr George Conquest's patrons. The love story of pretty Rosie Lee and the English miner, Joe Smith, is only the vehicle for a display of daring horsemanship and skilful sharpshooting, and in one act Mr S. F. Cody, "F.R M.S. and King of Cowboys," gives a marvellous exhibition of quick and accurate firing with a magazine rifle, and explains the merits of a wonderful magazine carbine of his own invention, capable of discharging twenty-five shots a-second, and of killing a horse at 1000 yards. Mr Cody also announces that his famous kites for signalling and reconnoitring purposes have been put to a series of most severe tests at Aldershot, and that he has every confidence of their being adopted for military purposes. As Rosie, the plucky and daring daughter of the old trapper and guide, Tom Lee, Madame Lela Cody invests her character with a strong individuality that wins the warm admiration of the audience. As the lover Mr Vivian Cody, plays with true earnestness and fervour. In the dual-part of Sam Deats and George Exelby Mr Edward Leroy invests both characters with a crafty cynicism that is strikingly impressive. As Waco Mr Leon Cody puts heart and soul into his performance, and gives an impersonation that is as interesting as it is effective. Mr Fred W. Garth supplies a fine character study as the drunken desperado Bill Sykes. Mr Doc Horsfall as the old trapper, Tom Lee, plays with feeling, and as Ted Lee Mr George West is decidedly good. Mr Tom Gillmore as the light-hearted Irishman Dr. Taddy O'Donohue wins the favour of the audience. As the volatile Frenchman, Garcon, Mr Joe Clarke creates laughter. Mr Albert Hendley as the Indian chief, Raven, well suggests the firmness and wiliness of the race. Other highly creditable conceptions are the Nellie of Miss Ivy Luck, the Judge Matherson of Mr Arthur Moreton, the Sheriff Wilson of Mr George Leigh, the Steve Gray of Mr William Graham, the Capt. Barnes of Mr Graham Hart, and the Nigger beggar of Mr Arthur Black. Mr Edgar Barrows does well as the Usher. Praise must be given to the beautiful stud of horses, whose marvellous obedience shows the patience and care of their trainer. The staging, scenery, and effects are strikingly realistic.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, June 6, a New and Original Comic Opera, entitled "THE KING'S DIAMOND."

Mr Peter Davey this week presents an entirely new and original comic opera entitled *The King's Diamond*, written by Charles Harbury, and composed by Meredith Ball, who also conducts the performance. The diamond referred to belonged to King Charles I., who, for an act of bravery, bestowed it upon Roger Duncombe, who is further rewarded by King Charles II. with the dignity of knighthood. The part of Charles II. is but a minor one, and is sufficiently well portrayed by Mr George Mudie. The Earl of Rochester and Lord Fortescue are respectively played by Messrs François Cellier and Ernest Mozar, who both possess agreeably tuneful voices, and are the accepted lovers of Elinor Fortescue and Alice Hardy. The latter characters are exceptionally well played by the Misses Beatrice Edwards and Winifred Hare, and the warmth of the reception accorded to the latter lady showed very plainly that the local playgoers do not forget their old favourites Miss M. Sadie was bright and amusing as Phœbe Larkin, the admired of Martin Fosbrooke, a part well played by Mr Elliott Ball. Roger Duncombe is extremely well represented by Mr A. G. Poulton, a comedian gifted with an abundant sense of humour. The singing is of a very high order, and an unaccompanied quartet in the first act is quite one of the best things we have heard for a long time. It is finely rendered by Messrs Cellier and Mozar and Misses Edwards and Hare. The chorus, scenery, and dresses reach a very high standard.

GRAND THEATRE, FULHAM.

On Monday, June 6, the Melodrama by Walter Melville, entitled "HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."

The summer season of melodrama has set in with some severity at the Fulham Theatre, where this week a strong dose of Walter Melville's *Her Second Time on Earth* is to be followed next week by the equally highly-flavoured drama *Her Forbidden Marriage*, and so on and so forth. Anyone craving for more in the way of sensation than is provided in the four acts of *Her Second Time on Earth* must indeed have a jaded palate and be suffering from an entire lack of cerebral activity. From first to last Dora Grey, the wickedest woman in drama, pursues her lurid path of relentless and remorseless crime. Miss Hilda Beverley acts with great force, judgment, power, and abandon as the beautiful fiend, whose beauty is used as a lure to gratify her lust of pleasure and of gold. Her scene where she dreams that she is re-enacting the murder of the old sea captain is thrilling and natural in the extreme, and we must compliment Miss Beverley on a thoroughly sound and engrossing, and withal refined, performance. Mr Eugene Stanley gives a telling representation of the parasite, Guy Brand, duly emphasising his villainy, though he should moderate a tendency to shout. Miss Polly March is good as the drunken woman, Elizabeth Burke, mother to the precious beauty who gives the title to the play, and she aptly emphasises the degradation of the erstwhile lady, a hopeless victim of the drink craze and vicious habits. Mr Charles Franmore is excellent as Captain Jasper Norman, who becomes demented by reason of his immersion when the fair Dora essays to murder and rob him in the first acts. Mr Franmore very cleverly indicates the state of mental aberration which prevents him remembering those around him, till such time as the sight of Beppo's dead face peering at him through the sand reawakens his dormant faculties. This part of Beppo, the Italian organ-grinder, is capitally enacted by Mr Wilton J. Selby. Miss Elaine Vanbrugh makes a pretty and graceful heroine, Laura Norman, and Miss Emily Hodgson as Kitty Rosebud and Mr Charles Leverton as Teddy Butterfly, her young man, are adepts in the provision of low comedy, and roars of laughter greet their inadvertent change of raiment. Mr Fred Ashley is Jack Carlton, Laura's sweetheart, and Mr David G. Noble essays the rôle of Tom Norman, her brother. Mr Henry Heller makes a satisfactory Dr. Ridley, and other minor parts are efficiently rendered. Some of the scenery is very pretty and effective.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, June 6 the Comedy, in Four Acts, Adapted from the French of Alexandre Dumas, by Sydney Grundy, entitled "A MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE."

Messrs Peter Davey and Thomas Kingston's revival of *A Marriage of Convenience*, which is at the Alexandra for the present week, has every advantage in the way of excellent acting and very complete and sumptuous dressing and mounting. Mr Kingston himself appears as the Comte De Candale, and his assumption of the rôle is in every way a successful one, and no less praiseworthy is the Comtesse De Candale of Miss Audrey Ford, who handles the part with no little tact and skill. Mr Ernest Stallard amusingly presents the fopperies of the Chevalier De Valclos, and a very sound and finished performance of the bluff, outspoken old general comes from Mr David Glasson. Mr J. Byron contributes a neat and clever little sketch of the man-servant, Jasmin, and minor parts are adequately filled by Messrs Arthur Somers, Alfred West, and Robert Danvers. A very bright and engaging performance of the Comtesse's maid, Marton, is given by Miss Victoria Addison, whose work is as good as any seen in the piece. The comedy is preceded by the comedietta *Old Cronies*, in which Mr A. E Raynor and Mr J. Byron appear and work loyally and well to make this rather old-fashioned little play interesting.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, June 6, "THE FLOOD TIDE."

The patrons of the Holloway-road theatre are being invited this week to renew their acquaintance with the great Drury-lane success, *The Flood Tide*. Splendidly staged, and accompanied as it is by scenery of a particularly appropriate and brilliant character, it certainly is a piece of a drawing kind. Mr Robert Minster in his original part of Captain Jack Champion, V.C., supplies a forcible and well-sustained study; Mr James Skea plays with unflagging power and concentration as Dick Champion; Mr Frank Collins gives a successful portraiture of the madman, Thompson, otherwise M'Naughton; and Mr Horace Pollock is an ideal Earl of Sutton. Mr G. Davy Burnaby, in his original part of Roderick O'Grief, sustains the character with ability, his fine voice and natural style of acting being most impressive. Mr Fred W. Leonard does full justice to the part of Colonel Sir Russell Corry. Mr William Sequin scores a success as Menotte Derago. It is by no means an important part, but Mr Sequin makes the most of it. Mr Chas. Danvers supplies an amusing impersonation of Packenham, and his catch phrase, "Turn from the path," meets with great success. Miss V. St. Lawrence acts the Baroness Pitchioli with that finished ease, grace, and charm that always characterises her performance. The natural cunning of the foreign adventuress, the hauteur and dignity she at times assumes, are phases of the character which Miss St. Lawrences sets forth with considerable skill. Miss Elsie Molloy displays intelligence in the portrayal of the Baroness's daughter, Marie Pitchioli, and Miss Kathleen Kellie is charmingly dainty as Mabel Corry. For Miss Marie Wright no better part could be found than Pollie Champion, and she makes all possible use of her many opportunities. She is marked out for the emphatic favour of the audience, and in conjunction with Mr Watty Brunton as George Wellington Clipp she affords unfailing amusement throughout the play. There are few rôles which this experienced actor, Mr Brunton, has played which suits his style better than the one he now assumes. He is full of humour, and to say that he keeps the house in a roar is but to render justice to his great abilities. The remaining characters are all satisfactorily filled. The stage-management is in the experienced hands of Mr George Enever, and the great flood episode at Blacmere affords an exciting incident which is thoroughly appreciated. Mr J. M. Glover's incidental music is most effectively rendered by the Marlborough orchestra, under the able direction of Mr J. G. Hahn.

SHAKESPEARE, CLAPHAM-JUNCTION.

On Monday, June 6, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled "A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

Crowded audiences have given a hearty welcome to Mr Walter Melville's company in this successful play, the powerful lesson which it conveys against the evil effects of drink being heartily endorsed in all parts of the house. Miss East Robertson as the drunkard Barbara Wade gave a powerful rendering of the part. Miss Rosemary Rees as Nellie supplied a strenuous and lifelike rendering. Mr Howard Russell contributed a delightful impersonation of Farmer Meadows, making a powerful impression on the audience. Miss Violet Luddington as Constance Cornell was tender and sweet, and the Jack Livingstone of Mr Wingold Lawrence was an excellent character sketch. Mr Charles Terry was good as Doctor Weston; Mr George Unwin as the brutal and calculating Cuthbert Lumley won the hisses of the gods; Mr Wm. Russell as the whining pickpocket, Crofts, amused the house; Mr John Hichin as Toby was intensely funny; and the part of Tilly was played with great animation by Miss Jessie Danvers, who caused great amusement. Mr John Brooks made a forcible Luke Ramsden, and Miss Nellie Noble and Miss Gibbons as two girls "up west" helped to relieve the grimness of the scene in the Park. Mr William Johnson was satisfactory as a Policeman, and Miss Kate Walton was excellent as Jessie Wilson. The scenery was very good.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 6, the Drama, by Walter Howard, entitled "TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS."

This week *Two Little Sailor Boys*, a very powerful and cleverly constructed drama, is the attraction at this ably managed theatre. The company engaged is rich in histrionic talent. As Commander Noel Tregarthen Mr W. H. Hallatt has ample scope for his undoubted abilities, and he submits an interpretation of this trying rôle meriting our highest eulogy. In the part of Captain Tom Yorke we have Mr Victor Gardom, who is indeed admirably cast, whilst Mr Leonard Booker is seen to conspicuous advantage as Lieut. Richard Redstone, R.N. As Admiral Grey Mr George Murray is highly commendable; Mr Oscar Power is extremely good as Jack Jolly; as the burglar, Tim Royston, Mr Ambrose Horton submits a highly creditable impersonation; and Mr Tom Sinclair makes the most of the rôle of Ben Baxter, and causes no end of amusement. As the unscrupulous Lola Grey Miss Blanche Steele proves herself to be an actress of conspicuous talent; whilst as Mildred Grey Miss Marie Daventry looks extremely well, and speaks her lines in a highly commendable manner. The two sailor boys, Cyril Grey and Tom Yorke, could not be in better hands than those of Miss Effie D. Crawford and Miss Ethel Francis respectively. The smaller parts are all in capable hands, and the mounting throughout is exceptionally good.

THE DALSTON.

On Monday, June 6, the Comedy, entitled 'DAVY GARRICK.'

Mr Edward Compton and his comedy company are this week delighting patrons of the Dalston Theatre with representations of some old comedies. On Monday night the chief piece in the programme was the three-act comedy by William Muskerry, entitled *Davy Garrick*. Mr Edward Compton was evidently still quite at home in his representation of the famous actor. One of the best bits of acting in the representation was where he riveted the attention of the matter-of-fact old Alderman Gresham by telling him a story about a little girl being in danger, and this just to prove to him the power of the actor's art. His scenes with Miss Haidee Gunn as Violet, the Alderman's daughter, were also fine specimens of acting. Miss Haidee Gunn imparted all the necessary vitality of feeling to the impressionable character of Violet. The gruff but at the same time not bad-hearted Alderman found a most efficient representative in Mr Henry Crocker. Mr A. B. Imeson is amusing as the Hon. Tom Tallyhaut. Mr Owen Wood and Mr Harry G. Mason were very good as the servants Gresham and Garrick respectively. A good laugh is always anticipated by the fun provided by the quaintly humorous guests at Gresham's house, and this hilarity was once more duly ensured by Mr Charles R. Stone, Mr Arnold Lucy, Mr Cecil Duncan, Miss M. Hassell, and Mrs Culling. The other comedies played during the week included *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The Rivals*, and *The School for Scandal*. On three evenings T. Haynes Bayley's old farce, *Tom Noddy's Secret*, has been played, the characters being sustained by Mr Arnold Lucy, Mr Charles R. Stone, Mr Cecil Duncan, Mrs Culling, and Miss Evelyn Aylestone.

TERRISS THEATRE, ROTHERHITHE.

On Monday, June 6, the Drama, in Four Acts and a Prologue, by Barry Williams, entitled "THE WORLD'S DESIRE."

Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr J. Edward Whitty's company is this week appearing in the above powerful drama, and excellent business is being done. Mr J. Edward Whitty, who doubles the parts of Robert and Henry Selkirk, is seen to great advantage, and scores a brilliant success; Mr Hartwell T. Kirby impersonates the villainous Hon. Ellis Tridley with all the necessary callousness and brutality, and in a similar part, that of Nathaniel Mutley, Mr Harry Belford shows well to the fore. As Dora Mutley Miss Ethel Van Praagh imbues the part with a lovable sweetness and charm that are irresistible. Another popular part is capably portrayed by Miss Nellie Schrier, who as Helen Berkshaw wins applause. Miss Maude Patrick gives evidence of great histrionic ability, and is deserving of great praise for her rendering of Eliza Kirbright; Little Ella is a capital Ragged Jack; Miss Ethel Tinsley puts in some good work as Justinia Hook; Washington Dobbs is excellently played by Mr Thomas Blakemore; a good reading of Seth Gowling comes from Mr James Wilson; and Mr Fred Pick satisfactorily acquits himself as Inspector Scott.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, June 6, the Drama, in Five Acts, by Frederick Melville, entitled "HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."

The latest dramatic production from the fertile pen of Mr Fred Melville is being staged this week at the Borough Theatre, and on Monday night gained an enthusiastic reception from the well-filled cheaper parts of this commodious suburban playhouse. The author has perfectly gauged the requirements of popular audiences, and in the piece under notice has given them a plethora of up-to-date sensational incidents allied to a liberal supply of comic relief, and the drama has the great advantage of being interpreted by an exceptionally strong cast. Mr Frederick Melville, who plays the hero, George Madison, is always virile and incisive, and makes the character exceedingly popular. Charles Devereux is a thorough-paced scoundrel indeed in the safe hands of Mr Clarence Hague, and a lesser villain, in the person of Geoffrey Broughton, is cleverly realised by Mr John Sargent. Mr Harry J. Crane contributes a natural and dignified embodiment of Sir George Lancaster, and Mr Newman Maurice scores heavily in the comedy rôle of Timothy Tuttutt. Miss Emily Hughes is very successful as the Mother Superior, her performance being artistic throughout. Miss Minnie Waller is charming as Lucy; Miss Helen Haye plays with all the necessary vindictiveness as Lady Lucretia Lancaster; and Miss Marie Kildare makes a bright and amusing Pattie Lovejoy. Other parts are all played with intelligence and care, and the piece is splendidly mounted.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, June 6, the Drama, in Four Acts, by F. Thorpe Tracy and Ivan Berlin, entitled "QUEEN OF THE NIGHT."

The return visit of this piece attracted a goodly audience to the Stratford Theatre Royal on the opening night of the week, who followed with close interest the trials and tribulations of virtue and the triumph of villainy until the scales of justice were put in order and all came right in the end. The story is liberally leavened with comedy business, and Mr James Stillwell's company work well together to secure its successful interpretation. As Frank Featherstone Mr James Stillwell plays in buoyant and manly style, and Mr A. C. Campbell strongly emphasises the scoundrelly nature of Phillip Stoneleigh. Mr E. D. Allen is exceedingly good as the bibulous old Briskett, and the younger Briskett has a volatile and loquacious representative in Mr Edgar Morgan The miser, David Pentreath, is cleverly realised by Mr Richard Webb, and the sailor, Jack Trent, has a breezy exponent in Mr Paul E. Tenlon. Miss Kathleen Coleman plays with intensity, vigour, and tact as Paulina, the Queen of the Night; Miss Kathleen Barnett is a charming and sympathetic Maude Sylvester; and Miss Nannie Cameron plays brightly as Mary Pentreath. Miss Jenny Risley is excellent as Mrs Adelaide Briskett, and Miss Lizzie Lennon is a vivacious Kitty White. Minor parts are in capable hands.

THE CARLTON, GREENWICH.

On Monday, June 6, the Drama, entitled "EAST LYNNE."

Miss Marie De Roos is appearing here in her version of Mrs Henry Wood's famous novel, "East Lynne" Miss De Roos was seen and warmly appreciated in the character of Lady Isabel at this theatre some months since, and her reception is most flattering on her return visit this week. Miss Gladys Bartie Frere is an excellent Corney Carlyle, Miss Ruth Zillwood an interesting Barbara Hare, and Joyce is well acted by Miss Madge Cottier. Little Willie Carlyle is very prettily played by Miss Chrissie St. John. Mr Edward Sorley gives a manly an effective representation of the character of Archibald Carlyle. Mr Alfred Holles, the popular business-manager of this theatre, scores heavily as Sir Francis Levison, a part he plays with much artistic skill. Mr Thomas Parkhouse does all that is possible with Richard Hare; Mr James P. Hussy is good as Justice Hare; Mr Stephen Montague is a dignified and impressive Lord Mountsevern; and Mr James Chippendale is a huge favourite with the audience in the part of Constable 495. The play is well mounted, and gives great satisfaction to the numerous frequenters of this cosy little theatre.

NEW EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, June 6, the Drama in Four Acts and a Prologue, by Hall Caine entitled "THE CHRISTIAN."

Mr Wentworth Croke's No. 1 company is here in Mr Hall Caine's drama. Miss Grace Chalmers acts throughout in a most convincing and pathetic style, and is altogether an effective Glory Quayle. Her rich, mellow voice, and the knowledge of how to use it, coupled with her fascinating manner, carried the house, the curtain being raised four times after the third act. Mr Harry Scott as the Hon. John Storm is excellent, and showed that he possesses a thorough grasp of the character. Mr Chas. Hill as Parson Quayle invests his part with professional dignity and decorum; and Mr Stanley Radcliffe as Father Lamplugh is all that can be desired. Mr Chas. E. Dering is a pompous and dignified Archdeacon Wealthy, and Mr Chas. B. Bedells supplies a capital impersonation of the man-about-town, Lord Robert Ure, displaying a dry humour that is highly acceptable. Mr Jackson Wilcox as Horatio Drake gives a careful and polished performance of a smooth-tongued scoundrel. Mr Bert Conway appears as the Faro King and Mr Oswald Marshall as Mr Lorimer. Mr F. Cameron carefully handles the rôle of Linkman; Mr Wilford Blumberg sustains with efficiency the part of Brother Paul; Miss Vashti Welborne is excellent as Polly Love; and the Misses Esther Ohlson, Dorothy Clifton, and Lilley Crammonde as Betty, Netta, and Lettie could not have been better placed. Miss Clara Nicholls is a very attractive and charming Mrs Callender. The play is admirably stage-managed and mounted.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW-CROSS.

On Monday, June 6, the Musical Farcical Comedy entitled "FUN ON THE BRISTOL."

The attraction this week is the appearance of Mr Wellesley Smith's company in the musical comedy entitled *Fun on the Bristol*. The cast includes Mr Russell Wallett in the character of the Widow O'Brien. Mr Wallett was an enormous favourite in the last Broadway pantomime, and was warmly welcomed on his return. His songs, "Follow me round the town," "She always dressed in black," and his share of the duet "That's what the people say" were received with great favour. Mr George Sydenham made a decided success as Count Menaggio, and assisted in the above-mentioned duet. Mr Wellesley Smith was very good as Captain Cranberry of the steamship Bristol. Mr J. M'William was very popular as Tom Cranberry; Mr George Goodwin was an excellent Richard Sparks; Mr J. C. Graves a capital steward, Jerry Thompson; and Mr James Wilson was well placed as Pinkerton Hawkshaw. Miss Clara Moore was a pleasing Dora M'Allister; Miss Knollys a charming Nora O'Brien; and Miss Blanche Blanchard made an excellent impression in the part of Bella. Miss Blanchard also contributed a very pretty dance. The Four Divinities sang "A Golden Belle" and "Creole Belles," concluding with a well-executed cake walk. Mr Harry Randall received a perfect ovation as "The Boarding-house Man."

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, June 6, the Musical Comedy, entitled "THE NEW BARMAID."

Messrs Alexander Loftus and Jack Dale brought their excellent touring company here on Monday and gave a thoroughly enjoyable performance of the above merry comedy, refurbished with new business, songs, and topical allusions. Mr Harrison Brockbank in his original part of Captain Lovebury plays with good presence and ease, and his stirring singing of "England Awake," and again "Will you marry me?" with its quaint business, continue to be rapturously received. Mr Wilford Howard is a robust Colonel Claymore. Mr Joseph B. Montague in his original part of Bertie White and Mr Jack Dale as William are mainly responsible for the fun of the piece, and their funny patter quaint business, and comic singing earn uproarious applause. The duet, "Mother was the mother of us both," brings down the house. Mr Sidney Vincent is an eccentric exponent of Mons. Bronson, and his clever dancing evokes admiration. Mr W. C. Chewd is a capital Inspector Hart; Miss Violet Osmunds as Braddy plays with spirit and dances admirably; Miss Vic Charlton is a sprightly Gussie; Miss Jean Gilmore makes a distinguished Lady Moulton; as the lady journalist, Dora Heather, Miss Maud Terry is chic, and her dancing is marked by tireless vivacity; Miss Hilda Blanche as Brenda is convincing; Mabel has a charming representative in Miss Ethel Kenyon. In the title-rôle Miss Amy Augarde continues to win admiration for her original creation of the arch-spirited hand-maiden, Ethel Jay, and her "Joe" song, delivered to a facsimile of the celebrity in a stage box, produces intense enthusiasm Several minor parts are capably filled, and the chorus is excellent.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, June 6, a New Version, in Four Acts and a Prologue, by Herbert Shelly, of the Drama "EAST LYNNE."

East Lynne is generally looked upon as an almost certain draw, and Mr Herbert Shelley's new version of the story, which has been played here this week by Miss Lilian and Mr Henry Dundas and company, has by no means belied the reputation of this veteran drama. Miss Lilian Dundas undertook Lady Isabel, and played with a sincerity and power which admirably brought out the pathos of the part, while her performance was, from all points of view, a complete artistic success. Miss Dundas was, perhaps, at her best in the scene in which Lady Isabel turns her betrayer out of the house, and again in the scene in the third act when the child dies in the presence of his disguised mother; the sustained pathos of the latter scene was most effecting, and evoked a considerable display of pocket-handkerchiefs on the part of the ladies in the audience. Mr Henry Dundas was well suited as Archibald Carlyle, and, with the acumen of the perfectly trained actor, made the most of the many possibilities afforded by the part for the display of Carlyle's kindly and loving nature and sternly repressed emotion at his desertion by his wife. Miss Ethel Caryllon was effective as Barbara Hare, acting and speaking with an air of distinction well in keeping with the character. Mr Percy Rhodes gave an admirable rendering of Capt. Levison, his nonchalant manner and cool, decisive delivery of his lines adding to the value of his impersonation. Miss Esther Carthew played Miss Corney Carlyle in just the right key, and with the able assistance of Mr H. J. Barrett as Justice Hare and Mr Sidney Young as Lawyer Dill was responsible for a good deal of amusement. The smaller parts were well handled by a capable cast too numerous for individual mention. The dressing and mounting were remarkably good, especially worthy of mention being the Bedroom scene, which was a pretty and at the same time a most realistic set.

MR WILLIAM TRANT has accepted an invitation to read Tennyson's "Maud" at the Pharos Club on Tuesday afternoon, July 5.

A NEW pastoral play of the Georgian period called *My Lord from Town* has been written for Mr Ben Greet by Mr H. M. Paull, and will be produced at Oxford on Saturday afternoon.

HIS MAJESTY'S.

On Monday, June 6, Revival of Shakespeare's Comedy, Arranged in Three Acts by Mr Beerbohm Tree,
"THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR."

Sir John Falstaff	Mr Tree
Master Fenton	Mr Basil Gill
Justice Shallow	Mr J. Fisher White
Master Slender	Mr Charles Quartermaine
Master Ford	Mr Oscar Asche
Master Page	Mr Julian L'Estrange
Sir Hugh Evans	Mr Frank Stanmore
Dr. Caius	Mr William Haviland
Host of the Garter Inn	Mr Lionel Brough
Bardolph	Mr Francis Chamier
Nym	Mr S. A. Cookson
Pistol	Mr Lyn Harding
Robin	Master Harold Stephenson
Simple	Mr Cecil Rose
Rugby	Mr P. R Goodyer
Mistress Page	Miss Ellen Terry
Mistress Anne Page	Miss Lily Brayton
Mistress Quickly	Miss Cicely Richards
Mistress Ford	Miss Constance Collier

Mr Beerbohm Tree's series of revivals would be scarcely complete without that "most pleasant and excellent conceited comedie of *Sir John Falstaff and the Merrie Wives of Windsor*," as the earliest text speaks of it, and playgoers eagerly sought the opportunity on Monday of renewing acquaintance with the popular actor-manager's impersonation of the fat Knight in love. In good sooth Mr Tree's arrangement of the piece accentuates boldly its merry disports and festive humour, and there is an evident determination on the part of every one of the company to be seen in the present revival to abandon himself or herself to the rollicking and obvious humours of the gentles and simples of the sixteenth century. Miss Ellen Terry among the ladies sounds the note of light-hearted gaiety in the rôle of Mistress Page. Miss Terry, indeed, puts on her "boldest suit of mirth," and her merriment, especially in the letter-reading, and at the conclusion of the buck basket incident, is absolutely contagious. The part might have been written for her, so exactly does it suit her; and he would be a melancholy wight who failed to be moved to laughter by an impersonation at once so arch, so joyous, so naturally human, and withal so winsome and graceful. Mr Tree's Sir John remains an admirable impersonation, and again is the very essence of boisterous bombast and self-complacency and vanity. The actor triumphs over his own personality, and it is only occasionally that one is able to detect his individuality in certain modulations of the voice. He is particularly happy in the wooing of Mistress Ford, and here we may praise the coquetry and amusing cajolery of Miss Constance Collier in that character. Her recent experience in Shakespearian rôles has been of considerable advantage to the actress, and her Mistress Ford betrays much cleverness both in conception and execution. Mr Lionel Brough as mine host of the Garter is again responsible for a ripe and unctuous performance. He is a witty soul is this ancient seller of sack, and his only licence is one for mirth, to which the veteran comedian gives full rein. The speech to the combatants in the droll duel scene is one of the best in the comedy, and Mr Brough gives it mellow utterance. Mr J. Fisher White is amusing in the rôle of Justice Shallow—an impersonation that does great credit to his versatility; Mr Charles Quartermaine cuts an absurd figure as the idiotic Master Slender, the part being played in the true spirit of farce; Mr Basil Gill urges the suit of Master Fenton with much tenderness; and a sweet and commendable Anne Page is found in Miss Lily Brayton. Mr Oscar Asche portrays the jealous fury of Master Ford with his accustomed vigour and energy, becoming quite gentle in his diplomacy as Master Brook; and Mr Julian L'Estrange makes effective use of his scant opportunities as Master Page. That excellent actor Mr William Haviland is particularly well placed as Dr. Caius, his broken French being very funnily delivered; Mr Frank Stanmore is duly ridiculous and mirth-provoking as Sir Hugh Evans; Mr Francis Chamier accentuates cleverly the swagger of Bardolph; and Nym and Pistol are saucily represented by Mr S. A Cookson and Mr Lyn Harding. Miss Cicely Richards as the garrulous Mrs Quickly gives valuable aid in her interviews with Falstaff; and Mr Cecil Rose as Simple, Mr P. R. Goodyer as Rugby, and Master Harold Stephenson as Robin, the page to the fat knight, carefully sustain those parts. The fairy revels in Windsor Forest form a pretty conclusion to an exhilarating and finely staged representation. Sir Arthur Sullivan's music adds much to the pleasure given by the performance. The bill is concluded by Mr F. Kinsey Peile's adaptation of Rudyard Kipling's story, *The Man Who Was*, in which Mr Tree repeats his awe-inspiring and pathetic performance of Austin Limmason. Mr Oscar Asche now succeeds to the rôle of Colonel Dirkovitch, originally played by Mr Edmund Maurice, and gives a strong melodramatic colouring to the brutality of that "swine" of a Russian officer. Mr Julian L'Estrange may be unreservedly complimented on his presentment of Little Mildred; and Mr Fisher White and Mr Francis Chamier are once more admirable as Colonel Durgan and Ressaldor Hira Singh. Miss Constance Collier, who looks attractive in the fashions of the period, gives a touch of melancholy tenderness to the character of Mrs Durgan. Miss Isabel Collier, Miss E. Inescourt, and Miss Dorothy Thomas are attractive representatives of the other ladies. The scene, an ante-room and messroom of the White Hussars, is most complete and realistic, and the military details are carefully considered and carried out.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Violet Vanbrugh, actress—Saturday, June 11.
Phyllis Relph, actress—Saturday, June 11.
Ernest Leicester, actor—Saturday, June 11.
Julia Neilson, actress—Sunday, June 12.
May Davis, actress,—Sunday, June 12.
H. H. Barrington, actor—Sunday, June 12.
Fanny Leslie, comedienne—Monday, June 13.
Ethel Haydon, burlesque actress—June 13.
Caicedo, wire performer—Monday, June 13.
Charles Morritt, illusionist—Monday, June 13.
Alva V. Darrell—Tuesday, June 14.
Mark Kinghorne, actor—Tuesday, June 14.
Seymour Perry—Tuesday, June 14.
Edith Merrilees—Tuesday, June 14.
Fred W. Warden—Tuesday, June 14.
Jack Collinson, music hall artiste—June 15.
Kitty Loftus, actress—Thursday, June 16.
George Giddens, actor—Friday, June 17.
J. Selbini, cyclist—Friday, June 17.
Claire Pauncefort, actress—Friday, June 17.
Constance Elgin, actress—Friday, June 17.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, June 6, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Frederick Melville, entitled
"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."

There was a bumping house at the Royal County Theatre on Monday to witness this stirring production, and the exciting incidents with which Mr Melville's play abounds were followed with intense interest. Chief honours are due to Miss Marie Robson for a most sympathetic impersonation of the part of Violet Thornton. Miss Marie M'Aulay also acquitted herself well in the part of Carmen De Savereaux. Mr Sidney Price made an acceptable Earl of Millard; and the part of Harry Millard was ably portrayed by Mr Frank Robertson. Mr Fred Morgan as the bold bad man, James Durwood, earned the execration of the gods; a fine manly piece of acting was that of Mr Henry Herne as the Rev. Phillip Carter; a special word of commendation is deserved by Mr Tubby Edlin for his impersonation of the low comedy part of Jack Pringle; Mr Edlin was ably assisted in his part by Miss Mabel Carr, who made a piquant Polly Pop. The play was admirably staged.

'WARP AND WOOF."

An Original Play, in Three Acts, by the Hon. Mrs Alfred Lyttelton, Produced at the Camden Theatre, on Monday, June 6.

Lady Jenny Barkstone	Miss Vera Beringer
Lady Schomberg	Miss Georgie Trewman
Miss Elfrida Schomberg	Miss Beatrice Read
Miss Nora Schomberg	Miss Nellie Beryl
Mrs Heriot	Miss Ethel B. Carlton
Miss Grace Ponsonby	Miss Ada Webster
Miss Donaldson	Miss Freda Bramleigh
Madame Stefanie	Miss Irene Moncrieff
Miss Smith	Miss Louie Jardine
Miss Spencer	Miss Leila Repton
Miss Burns	Miss May Howard
Theodosia Hemming	Mrs Patrick Campbell
Phœbe Hemming	Miss Vera Longden
Alice Bates	Miss Maud Sutton
Lizzie Green	Miss Seymour Hodges
Jessie Byles	Miss Nora Cooke
Sir Joseph Schomberg	Mr George Ingleton
Captain Harwood	Mr C. Aubrey Smith
Mr Percy Wilson	Mr George Bealby
Matson	Mr Marc Macdermott
Tom Bent	Mr Orlando Daly
Footman	Mr J. Poole Kirkwood

It is a long time since we have seen such an interesting play as *Warp and Woof*. We do not mean to infer that it is a masterpiece of construction; indeed, it has no "plot" to speak of. Its great merit is that the characters, and the life the authoress depicts, have evidently been studied at first hand. Without intrigue, with a love interest of the most subsidiary sort, *Warp and Woof* grips the attention of an audience by sheer reality. We feel as if we were witnessing actual incidents instead of "sitting at a play." This result is attained by many little touches which are obviously suggested by "things seen." The piece is a "slice from life," and it has all the charm of intelligent observation.

The first scene represents a show room at a fashionable West-end dressmaker's. The principal, Madame Stefanie, is a bullying, energetic, artful woman from Stepney, who assumes a French accent to impose on her customers. Her best employee is Theodosia Hemming, a clever "fitter," whose sister, Phœbe, is a sempstress in the same establishment. A certain fashionable fancy ball is about to take place, and Madame Stefanie is overloaded with "orders." The workgirls have been kept up all night toiling at the costumes, and Phœbe Hemming is almost worn out. As a last straw, Lady Jenny Barkstone, a sharp and hard young woman, who has just returned from Egypt, demands a dress within a few hours. Pressure is put upon Madame by a literary exquisite named Percy Wilson, and the dress has to be made somehow. Instead of the workgirls getting off at ten o'clock they are to be again kept up late. Theodosia is sick of the life of drudgery which she is leading, and is sorely tempted to become the mistress of Wilson, who makes love to her for "the bad motive."

In the second act we are shown the workroom, a most realistic scene, with every detail correctly supplied. In order to save Phœbe from breaking down entirely, her sweetheart, Tom Bent, the lift-man of the establishment, informs the Inspector of Factories, Miss Donaldson, of the overwork which is being done. Madame Stefanie, expecting a call from her, arranges that, at a given signal, all the girls shall hide in an adjoining apartment. When, therefore, Miss Donaldson arrives, she finds the workroom vacant. The "inspector" is, however, a Sherlock Holmes in petticoats; and, by employing the process of deduction, she arrives at certain conclusions and discovers the girls' hiding-place. She then questions them; but, *in terrorem* of dismissal, they are all silent, except Theodosia, who, driven beyond endurance, tells the whole truth. She and her sister are summarily dismissed; and Phœbe, who has broken a bloodvessel, is taken home. Theodosia goes to Lady Barkstone's with her ladyship's costume; and in order to get money for her sister — for Madame Stefanie refuses to pay Theodosia her week's wages—the latter accepts Wilson's offer and a £5 note "on account." Being bullied by Lady Jenny, Theodosia tells the ladies at what cost of toil and suffering their dresses have been produced. She is saved, however, from the clutches of the oily Wilson by the news of her sister's death, which is brought to her at Lady Jenny's. Phœbe's last words were "Theo, come back!" "I have come back!" says poor Theodosia, kneeling and weeping, and the curtain falls.

The piece is embellished with many clever character sketches. The plausible lady who wheedles Madame into giving long credit and sends the girls bunches of flowers which cost her nothing; the middle-aged imbecile who goes to a fancy ball in "Jap." costume; Lady Jenny Barkstone with her selfishness and slang; Madame Stefanie, now cringing, now bullying, and always able and energetic; the red-haired girl who is always on the side of the mistress; the smirking lass who is going on the stage; and the different varieties of smart customers—all are drawn with a free and facile pen.

Mrs Patrick Campbell is in her prime as an artist; and her performance as Theodosia Hemming at the Camden Theatre on Monday had all the best qualities of her style. To those familiar—and what playgoer is not?—with Mrs Campbell's method, further praise is unnecessary. Miss Vera Beringer enacted Lady Jenny Barkstone "to the life," and suited the part in every way exactly. Fine judgment had been shown in the selection of the "support," which was good all round. Subordinate as most of the characters were to the few principal ones, each was carefully and cleverly worked out. Miss Irene Moncrieff was admirably convincing as that vigorous "blackguard of a woman," Madame Stephanie; Miss Freda Bramleigh was equally realistic as that cool, determined, official Miss Donaldson; and Miss Vera Longden gave a pathetic performance as Phœbe Hemming. Mr George Bealby played Mr Percy Wilson in crisp, alert, and serio-comic style that was both original and effective; and Miss Beatrice Read and Miss Nellie Beryl did a little interpolated sketch neatly and daintily. Miss Ethel B. Carlton was brisk and natural as the fussy, persuasive Mrs Heriot; and Miss Ada Webster and Mr C. Aubrey Smith did all that was possible—which was not much—with the parts of the two true lovers of the play, whose amours have, indeed, small connection with the main idea. Miss Georgie Trewman gave a comical interpretation of the rôle of Lady Schomberg; and Miss May Howard was quite praiseworthy as the stern and subdued head fitter, Miss Burns. Warm praise is due to the manner in which each performer, "down to the very humblest," had been rehearsed in the business of the play, which had a very cordial reception from a fashionable and friendly audience.

At the usual weekly meeting of the council, held last Tuesday, George Wallace Johnston, Thomas Stewart, Ada Ferrar, and Mildred Vance were nominated as candidates for election as members of the Actors' Association. Dr. Lockhart Mure of Llandudno, Dr. W. Jarvis Bell of Peckham, Dr. Norman Meachen of Cavendish-street, W., and Dr. J. Hubert Griffin of Paddington, were appointed honorary medical officers to the A.A. A case of alleged insanitation was considered and instructions given to the secretary to inquire into the matter. The hon. solicitors reported the result of a trial, verdict being given for the claim and on the counter-claim in favour of the plaintiff with costs. A case of alleged bogus management was considered, and the secretary received instructions to insert an advertisement invitiug members to consult him before signing agreements. The lowest tender for carrying out the sanitary improvements at the A.A., recommended by the hon. medical officer of health, was accepted. The council received the report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee. The hon. solicitors reported that they had advised several members. The secretary reported that arrangements had been made for the hearing of a case referred to a board of arbitration.

MR. H. W. VARNA.

Mr H. W. Varna, who has gained a consensus of eulogium from the entire Australian Press, to which country he had been sent by Mr Tree to produce *The Darling of the Gods*, accepted his first theatrical engagement in 1885. Since then he has been actively employed with scarcely any loss of time in a long round of provincial engagements, as actor and stage-manager, in the largest to the smallest theatres, and further making the acquaintance of the "fit-ups" from the South of England to the extreme North of Scotland. Then several years in the East End of London stock seasons, a tour through South Africa, so that there is hardly a branch of the business he is not acquainted with. When Mr Tree opened his new theatre Mr Varna was fortunate enough to enlist under his banner, and during the past seven years has been actively employed there. Immediately under Mr Tree, who is his own producer, Mr Varna has been responsible for the entire stage-management during the most recent brilliant productions at His Majesty's. Requiring one thoroughly trustworthy and competent, Mr Tree despatched Mr Varna to Australia to produce *The Darling of the Gods* there, and a most brilliant replica in Melbourne and Sydney has been the result. "There is, however, one individual who is hidden from the public gaze, but to whom the chief merit of the creditable production is undoubtedly due, and that modest but capable person is Mr Beerbohm Tree's stage-manager, Mr H. W. Varna. I am told that he is a revelation as a stage-manager, and holds all the strings like a thorough general. No matter is too trivial for him, no detail too insignificant to notice, approve, condemn, or alter. The audience rarely gives a thought to the stage director of a big production, yet he is often the greatest and most potent factor in the success. He is the head that controls and moves the whole machine, from the Alpha of the flies to the Omega of the cellar. We have had many capable stage-managers here, but report credits Mr Varna with being the best of them. It is not difficult to believe this when we consider what a heavy and elaborate production *The Darling of the Gods* is, and how perfectly it was staged on the opening night. — *Melbourne Punch*, April 14, 1904."

"THE DARLING OF THE GODS" IN AUSTRALIA

In the working out of the dramatist's idea the chief honour belongs to Mr H. W. Varna, for he more than any of the actors was apparent through out the whole production. Mr Varna is the stage-manager from His Majesty's Theatre, London, where the most gorgeous and successful productions of recent years have been produced. One may sometimes witness indifferent acting at Mr Tree's house, but never commonplace mounting. *The Darling of the Gods* is admitted to mark the acme of stage setting, and it is only just that Mr Varna should receive the due acknowledgment of his success in producing this beautiful work in Melbourne. Of the other performers there will be opportunity to speak later. The stage-manager, who is generally unknown

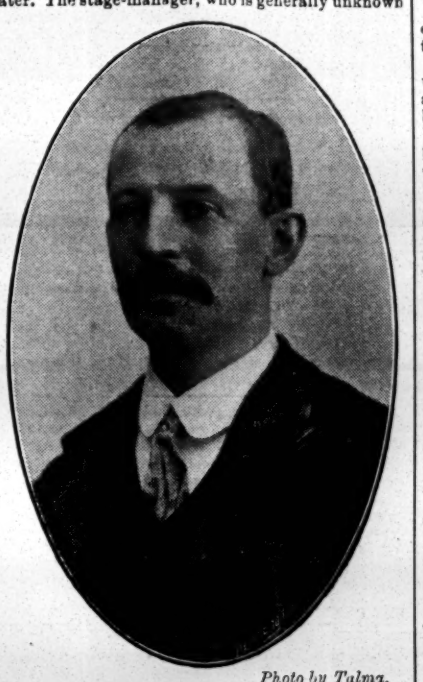

Photo by Talma.

MR. H. W. VARNA.

to the audience, and whose name is not starred on the posters, is the power behind the curtain. He is responsible in such a production as the present for the acting, the costumes, the scenery and properties, the lights, music, &c. Particularly is he responsible for the lines on which the parts should be played. Mr Varna is to be heartily complimented upon providing an entertainment which as a feast of colour and triumph of mechanism alone deserves a prosperous career.—*Australasian*, April 9th, 1904.

They tell wonderful things of Mr Varna, who directs, manages, and is the mighty Coryphæus of the great production. "Ootona" fellow-passengers described him to me a month ago as a gentle, good-tempered, and agreeable English tourist. Ye gods! The other tale I heard! It told of his marvellous generalship on the stage; his absolute genius for imbuing the performers with the proper spirit of the play, urging, encouraging guiding, perfecting every one of them. For a stage-manager, Mr Varna is held to have the patience of an angel, the indomitable will of a Napoleon, and the artistic temperament of a Bernhardt. On Good Friday the rehearsal lasted from ten in the morning till seven at night, with a mere break for a cup of tea at midday. No wonder the performance was a mighty achievement! —*Critic*, April 6, 1904.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The concert at the Royal College of Music on Thursday evening had some interesting features, displaying to great advantage the talent of the students. Among other items the programme included two fine examples of Beethoven. One was the quartet for strings in F Minor, Op. 95, played by Vera Warwick Evans, Herbert Kinze, Frank Bridge, and Ivor James with much spirit. The other work was the serenade trio in D Major for flute, violin, and viola, which musical combination derived additional interest from the clever performance of Gilbert Barton, Vera Warwick Evans, and Frank Bridge. The sonata of Schumann in D Minor for violin and pianoforte was skilfully rendered by Gwendoline Pelly and Olive Blume, who did ample justice to the composer's beautiful ideas. The second and third movements of Schumann's Sonata reflected the greatest credit on the executants. The vocal music was excellent. Mr Greeves Johnson, who has a lovely voice, sang "To the Rose," by Hatton, and "O, Mistress Mine," by Sullivan. The vocalist was greeted with rapturous applause and recalls. Miss Eva Brown sang Dr. Elgar's graceful song, "The poet's life," with violin obbligato by Miss Vera Warwick Evans, who played extremely well. The concert concluded with an organ solo by a composer new to us, named Reubke, the executant being Mr Stanley Stubbs. The next orchestral concert will take place on June 14, and will consist of selections from the works of the late Antonin Dvořák.

MARRIAGE OF MR. F. W. PURCELL'S DAUGHTER.

Considerable interest was taken by a large and fashionable assembly at St. Andrew's Church, Stoke Newington, on Saturday, in the wedding of Mr Walter Rayner Boughton, of Folkestone, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Walter Boughton, Smedmore, Guildford, and Miss Mabel Alice Purcell, third daughter of Mr and Mrs F. W. Purcell, Bedford House, Amherst Park.

Long before the time for the ceremony, the church was filled with a large and fashionable congregation, and the roadways outside were packed with an eager crowd of sightseers deeply interested in so important a domestic event, in which the well-known proprietor of their favourite theatres was so intimately concerned. The fact is, that during the last few years the name of Purcell has become such public property that every resident within reach of the Alexandra or Marlborough has come to look upon it as one of the district possessions, and a wedding in the Purcell family became therefore almost a family affair, and certainly an historic one, for Mr Purcell's name will live many a long year as that of one confident in his own ability, who, in the face of adverse circumstances, brought to Stoke Newington a theatre, and by strenuous endeavour converted a population almost opposed to the drama, and certainly but slightly acquainted with it, to regular attendants at his house. We mention this because it gives a clue to the splendid popularity which he has secured, and which was marked on this, the occasion of his daughter's wedding. Mr C. J. C. Boddington, the organist, performed an excellent selection of music in his usual talented manner, including Toccato in G (Dubois) and Polonaise (Rubinstein), and as the bride entered the church, leaning upon the arm of her father, they were heralded by Wagner's "Bridal Chorus."

She was charmingly attired in a gown of ivory white crepe chiffon, over soft white satin, the bodice having a transparent yoke of lace and ruched chiffon, with silver embroidered applique. The train was of full gathered chiffon, with trails of orange blossoms and lover's knots of white satin ribbon. There were six bridesmaids, five being the sisters of the bride and the other the bridegroom's sister:—Miss Beatrice Wallace Purcell, Miss Boughton, the Misses Edith Mary, Lena Maude, Florence Winifred, and Ada Lilian Purcell. They looked very pretty in their dresses of cream silk spotted voile, with pleated satin ribbon worked in a scroll design, and deep lace frills falling from a transparent yoke, and high pleated waist bands in spot-blue satin. They wore early Victorian bonnets trimmed with white satin ribbon and bunches of pink roses, and they carried shower bouquets of pink roses.

The bride's mother wore a handsome gown of fawn and blue Taffetta Raye, trimmed with fine French lace, and a toque of fawn tulle, trimmed with brown lace and bunches of plums.

The bridegroom's mother wore a handsome frock of dark blue voile, trimmed with lace, and a lace toque with roses.

The marriage ceremony was performed by the vicar, the Rev. F. Relton, in an impressive manner, and the choral music was most effective. The hymn, "Christ, we come before Thee," and the Psalm, "God be merciful unto us," were beautifully rendered. The actual marriage service was solemnised in a quiet conversational way by the vicar, as being a matter chiefly concerning the young couple, and it was only after they had entered the chancel that the congregation were taken, so to speak, into confidence, and then he delivered a short homily that must have gone to the hearts of all his hearers, and especially to those of the happy married pair, winding up with the hope that the glorious sunshine which had favoured their nuptials would continue with them through all their married life.

The hymn "O Perfect Love" followed, and the bride and bridegroom, with their intimate friends, repaired to the vestry to sign the register. During their absence Mr Boddington played Mailly's "Grand March," and Mr Harry Greene sang the tenor solo, "Be thou faithful," from *St. Paul*. As the party reappeared the organ struck up Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" with grand effect. The bridegroom descended the chancel steps, smiling on his friends, and the bride seemed all the more charming for being a little pale. St. Andrew's has seldom seen a more beautiful bride or manlier bridegroom, and "good luck" went out to them from every heart as they walked down the aisle. Mr Charles V. Boughton efficiently performed the onerous duties of best man.

The floral decorations, arranged by Mr Calcutt, were excellent. The centre aisle, the chancel, and the altar wings were lined with hot-house plants. An arch of gladioli, white lilies, marguerites, and greenery spanned the centre aisle. The pulpit was prettily decorated, and the entrance to the chancel was a picture, the opening in the chancel screen being festooned with smilax, gladioli, white lilies, and marguerites, while from the centre of the arch depended a basket of ferns, yellow iris, purple gladioli, pink and damask roses, and white lilies.

When the bridal party left the church for the reception at the residence of the bride's parents, the crowd had grown still more dense, and there was some difficulty in getting the carriages up to the awning. Enhanced by the beautiful weather which had favoured the occasion, the reception was a brilliant scene, about 150 guests, both from town and the provinces, being warmly welcomed by Mr and Mrs Purcell. The combined orchestras of the Alexandra and Marlborough discoursed excellent music upon the balcony, which, like the interior of the house, possessed quite a wealth of floral beauty and decoration.

The departure of the happy pair en route for the Lake District (where the honeymoon is being spent) was quite effusive and enthusiastic. The bride's travelling dress was of pale biscuit colour, trimmed with fancy brown shot velvet ruching and lace, her hat being of blue tulle, trimmed with pale blue ribbon and white roses.

The bridegroom's present to his fiancée was a bicycle, and to the bridesmaids enamelled jewelled watches.

The wedding presents were numerous and of a costly character, and were much admired.

They included:—

Parents of bride, furniture, grand piano, and silver-mounted fitted dressing case.
Parents of bridegroom, canteen set.
Miss Purcell, electric floral lamp.
Misses E. and L. Purcell, porcelain picture.
Misses F. and A. Purcell, silver ice pail.
Master F. Purcell, silver sugar sifter.
Miss Boughton, silver and ivory breadfork.
Mr C. V. Boughton, silver salts and pickle fork.
Miss Summers and Mdlle. Feulpin, Maltese lace collar.
Mr and Mrs Dacres Smith, china ornament electric lamp.
Mr and Mrs Hocker and Mr and Mrs Parry, silver centre pieces.
Misses M. and K. Winkle, silver tea service.
Mr and Mrs Wright, ormolu mounted drawing-room clock.
Miss Wright, hand-painted table centre.
Mr H. Wright, new art inkstand.
Rev. E. P. and Mrs Howlett, pewter card tray.
The Misses Bennett, crumb tray and brush.
Dr. and Mrs Puckett, two water colours.
Mr M. Puckett, black and white sketch.
Mr and Mrs Frank Taylor, salad bowl and servers.
Mr, Mrs, and Miss Cole, silver serviette rings.
Mr and Mrs Steer, apostle spoons.
Miss J. Boughton and the Misses Callingham, silver muffineers.
Mr and Mrs J. Clarke, antique Sheffield-plated inkstand.
Mr W. Clarke, pair of water-colours.
Mr and Mrs Perfect, scent spray.
Messrs J. H. and F. Lukey, silver breakfast-dish.
Messrs H. and L. Vye, pair of copper plant pots.
Mrs Luther, water-colour.
The Misses Rumsey, silver-mounted jam-jar.
Mr and Mrs Pope and family, Worcester flower-bowl.
Mr and Mrs F. R. Booth, silver cake-basket.
Mrs W. J. Revill, toilet-set.
Dr. and Mrs M'Donnell, Irish china tea-service.
Mr and Mrs G. Reader, silver tea service.
Miss A. Matcham, silver salad servers.
Mr and Mrs Taylor, fish carvers.
Mr and Mrs Robinson, pair of engravings in oak frames.
Miss G. Lukey and Mr Walker, new art fruit stand.
Miss and Master Dacre Smith, etching in oak frame.
Miss Camille Boss, art vase.
Mrs Burrage, cheque.
Mrs Smith, two macrama mantel borders.
Mr W. O. Newport, chased brass revolving book stand.
Mr and Mrs Ward, pair of silver specimen vases.
Mrs Brunger, silver paperknife.
Mr and Mrs Pepper, silver sugar basin.
Miss Elsie Miller, grape scissors.
Miss Irene Steer, silver salts.
Mrs Ellis, silver rose bowl.
Maids at Bedford House, silver cruet.
Staff at 5, Sandgate-road and 102, Cheriton-road, Folkestone, silver clothes brushes and bracket (Messrs J. Hartley, W. W. Hartley, T. Harrison, A. Smith, F. B. Anderson, G. Goldsack, C. P. Virley, S. B. Barter, H. R. Stone, W. Nighingarl).
Messrs T. J. Robinson, F. R. Yeulett, A. Taylor, and staff at Alexandra and Marlborough Theatres, silver teatray, entrée dish and pair sauce bowls and grandfather's clock.
Theatre Royal, Sheffield, silver salver.
Folkestone Rowing Club, dining-room clock.
Mr and Mrs Frank Matcham, silver asparagus dish and server.
Mr and Mrs Walter Cole, silver candlesticks.
Miss Schonewald, art vase.
Mr and Mrs C. Revill, silver breakfast service.
Mr and Mrs Bunn, fruit stand.
Mr and Mrs Upstone and Dr. and Mrs Clendinnon, salad bowl and silver servers.
Mr and Mrs J. Taylor, silver mustard pot.
Mr and Mrs A. E. Lewis, silver rose bowl.
Mr R. Pilkington, claret jug.
Mr and Mrs De Jong, marble bust.
Mr Fred Fredericks, silver clock.
Mr and Mrs F. Howarth, silver flower vases.
Mr and Mrs F. B. Smith, silver card tray.
Miss Smith, silver photo. frame.
Mr J. A. Love, cheque.
Mr T. English, cigar cabinet.
Mr G. Goldsack, silver asparagus dish.
Mr Tim Harrison, silver asparagus servers.
Anonymous, Doulton vase.
Mr and Mrs Goldsack, silver-mounted photograph frame.
Mr and Mrs P. J. Walsh, silver flower vases.
Mrs and Miss Longdon, copper flower bowl.
Mr and Mrs J. E. Smith, silver crumb tray and brush.

The bridal costumes were the productions of René James, Court dressmaker, Regent-street. Messrs R. Garwood and Sons, Upper Clapton, supplied the wedding carriages, and Messrs J. Lyons and Co., Limited, catered at the reception.

MR. WALENN'S JAPANESE DRAWINGS.

At the St. James's Galleries, King-street, St. James's, Mr F. D. Walenn, the brother of Mr Cecil Barth, the well-known theatrical manager, exhibits a series of sketches and drawings of Japanese subjects. In the same gallery are works by many popular artists, but the specimens of Japanese art are just now the most attractive. We first remark drawings from Madame Sada Yacco's company. No 2 represents "Katsuragi in the Fan Dance," in act three, and No. 7, "The Shogun's Court," is attractive in colour. The drawings from *The Darling of the Gods*, so finely acted and so admirably placed upon the stage by Mr Beerbohm Tree, are full of interest and charm. The one entitled "A look into the Garden of the Prince of Yosan," with its wealth of blossom, recalls a characteristic feature of Japanese life. The picture "Outside the Shoji of Yosan" is remarkable for its picturesque glimpse of the New Moon. No. 14, "Zakkuri and his Spies," is dramatic. No. 18, "Yosan and Set-Su in the Garden," is extremely pretty and graceful. Perhaps the best drawing is No. 24, in which "Zakkuri trades with Yosan," and the portrait of "Mr Basil Gill as Prince Kara" is quaint and effective. Among the miscellaneous drawings No 25, "A Japanese Fan Dance," is clever, and 26, "The Land of the Rising Sun," has also merit. No. 43, "The Combat," is quite in the old style. The combatants are letting fly a cloud of arrows, and are struggling with the old-fashioned armour and weapons as we see on old Japanese jars, from which one might imagine some of these sketches were taken. The Japanese type of girls is cleverly represented in No. 40, called "Two Mousmé." "Among the Poppies" is another interesting study; and No 41, "The Departure of Sogo;" No 35, "The Palanquin;" and other studies and sketches are worth seeing as specimens of Japanese art. Mr Walenn has evidently studied the subject with much care and skill, and the sketches are interesting; and, if we might designate them so without offence, we should call them very "Japanesy," particularly in the quaint figures and costumes. The artistic quality varies, and some drawings are much better than others, but all have a special attraction at the present time when our thoughts are so much taken up with the present and future of Japan.

Mr E. Graham-Falcon will commence a Hippodrome season at the County Theatre, Bedford, and the Grand Theatre, Luton, on Bank Holiday. The booking is in the hands of Mr Edward Oranston.

"Honour Bright" will be toured during the autumn by a private syndicate, mounted on an elaborate scale. The company will be under the business management of Mr H. C. Clements.

Drama is the attraction at the Elephant and Castle Theatre this week, and the company engaged for the representation of *The Rich and Poor of London* succeed in investing the play with a degree of naturalness that proves highly acceptable to the patrons of the theatre. Mr Ernest E. Norris again gives a striking display of his ability as a versatile actor, and he works unflaggingly in the part of Spider Jack. Mrs Bennett in the onerous rôle of Nurse Braythwaite acts charmingly, Mark Standing receives able treatment at the hands of Mr H. Gomer May, and Doctor Leonard Morton is vigorously delineated by Mr George H. Doughty. Mr Harley West plays the part of Gussie Lambe effectively, and Mr Fred Litchfield makes the most of Lawyer Matthew Graham. Mr Fred Cowell is good as the old fisherman, Dan'l Drake, and Miss Cissie Beezant enlists the sympathies of the house with her natural portraiture of Dicksie, a street waif. Binky Bill is typically impersonated by Mr James Stephens. Miss Ethel Royale plays the part of Ruby Redgrave in good style, and Miss Sophie Shenton as Auntie Scrimp earned the execrations of the house by the old woman's brutality to the boy Dicksie. Miss [illegible] Atherleigh makes a vivacious Polly Phil, Phyllis Miss Ethel Holdsworth a good Maudie. Mr. and Williams as Seadrift acts in a pleasing fashion, Willie Ernest E. Norris is responsible for the produc[illegible] and deserves every credit for his work.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR HENRY IRVING and MR AND MRS GEORGE ALEXANDER were present at the wedding of Mr P. F. Warner, the cricketer, at St. Marylebone Church on Tuesday. Sir Henry's present to the bride was a brooch.

MISS LOUIE FREEAR'S enthusiastic reception in *Boy Bob* at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, where she started her fifteen weeks' tour last Monday, was accompanied by a sheaf of telegrams and letters that came to the clever little comedienne behind the scenes. Every post seems to bring picture postcards for her to sign, and she manages to get through an exceedingly large correspondence—even writing in her dressing-room at the theatre just before the performance commences. Miss Freear believes in one dramatic school—the stage itself—where she was trained, making her début at eight weeks old, and working away behind the footlights ever since. She has played every style of part between the time when she was literally an infant phenomenon and the production of the never-to-be-forgotten *Chinese Honeymoon*. Next Christmas she goes to the Tivoli and Oxford with a big budget of songs, old and new favourites, including a ditty about a certain "John James Perkins" that promises particularly well.

MISS FREEAR is now living in a big house that she bought some time ago, surrounded by a pretty garden. She has a Welsh church on one side and a Roman Catholic one on the other. Fortunately for her the services are held at different times, so that the beautiful music does not clash, and she can enjoy it by turns as she sits in her garden. Fond as she is of dogs, Miss Freear has given up keeping any, for her favourite bulldog died suddenly a little while ago, and her pet terrier made havoc among her plants, so that she was obliged to give him away.

THE death is announced of Mr Louis Edwards, a capable artist who was for some years associated with the *Illustrated London News*. In his youthful career he had been a bugler in the 17th Lancers, and was specially clever in designing military costumes. Some of his earliest art work was done for M. Alias, the costumier. The deceased gentleman married a few years ago Miss Dorothy Drake, the pretty actress who played Ruth Milford, the heroine of *The Worst Woman in London*, at the Adelphi during the revival of Mr Walter Melville's play there in March, 1903, and who afterwards appeared with great success in the title-rôle of *Glittering Gloria* at Wyndham's on the production of that farcical comedy in July of the same year.

MR REEVES-SMITH, who has been playing Parbury, in *The Tyranny of Tears*, in America, had an amusing incident which happened during a performance in Minnesota. It will be remembered that Parbury is told by his wife to choose between her leaving the house and his dismissing his typewriter. "You remember," says Mr Reeves, "where Mrs Parbury asks, 'Which is it to be?' I take a pause, more or less prolonged, according to the audience. While I paused a big fellow got up in the parquet and called out, with an invocation which need not be repeated, 'If he lets that typewriter go I'll go up on the stage and sock him on the jaw!'"

THE Orient, the great Yiddish theatre that is projected in the East-end, will be open an hour before the performance commences, and every seat will be bookable in advance. The site secured was the property of the London Hospital. The price was £10,000, and the total cost of the great Ghetto playhouse is expected to be £60,000. The syndicate which is building it has in the past paid the management of the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, £80 for a single night's hire for the production of a Yiddish play, and has been able to do so at a profit. The plans are now before the County Council.

MR CHAS. I. COLTSON asks us to acknowledge the receipt by the Actors' Benevolent Fund of a parcel of postal orders of the value of £4 3s. 4d., forwarded by Mr Lewis Waller and received by him in exchange for his autograph.

THE Right Hon. Sir Edward Carson, the Solicitor-General, will preside at the annual dinner of that excellent and valuable institution the Royal General Theatrical Fund, which takes place on Saturday next, at the Hôtel Métropole.

MR CHARLES WARNER, who recently returned from America, and has kindly consented to recite at the forthcoming Clement Scott matinée, was in a private box at His Majesty's Theatre on Wednesday evening with his talented son, and evidently enjoyed the performance of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* greatly.

SOME of the West-end dressmakers are indignant at the attack on their calling which they consider has been made in the Hon. Mrs Lyttelton's play *Warp and Woof*, which was produced by Mrs Patrick Campbell at the Camden Theatre on Monday. The authoress may plead that her "Nigger-driving" milliner, Madame Stephanie, is an individual creation, and that her establishment is not intended to be typical of the average dressmaker's workroom. It is a case of "if the cap fits wear it;" and our theatrical costumiers, at any rate, may say, "let the galled jade wince; our withers are unwrung."

SIR HENRY IRVING has consented to appear at the Bath Theatre Royal next February. Sir Henry twice visited Bath, on the first occasion for three nights in September, 1867, when he played Joseph Surface, Captain Absolute, and Young Marlow, with Miss Herbert St. James's company; and on the second, in August, 1871, when he appeared as Digby Grant, in *Two Roses*.

A WRITER in the current number of *Femina*, a Parisian ladies' paper, says:—"The London actress is more beautiful than her sister-worker the French artist." It is comforting to find a French journalist giving British artists credit for anything.

MR BEERBOHM TREE is to be presented with a handsome silver coffee service by his company on Saturday afternoon, in the foyer of His Majesty's Theatre, in celebration of the seventh anniversary of the opening of the theatre. The date of the anniversary was April 28, and June 18 will be the last day of Mr Tree's present season.

THE aspect of Daly's Theatre on Tuesday evening was made even brighter than usual by the presence of the guests of Sir James Blyth, fresh from the wedding of Mr P. F. Warner and Miss Blyth. The party occupied about one-third of the seating accommodation in the boxes and stalls.

MRS ALFRED LYTTELTON, the wife of the Colonial Secretary, whose play *Warp and Woof* was produced at the Camden Theatre on Monday, is the author of the little play which was performed before their Majesties upon their last visit to Chatsworth, and a contributor to several of the leading monthlies. When a girl she was accustomed to travel with her mother in Sweden, and in the evenings she often took part in little plays performed for the entertainment of the villagers. Mrs Lyttelton was for several years an active member of the Industrial Law Committee, a body responsible for the administration of a fund to indemnify workgirls who have lost their situations through giving information against their employers to [illegible] inspectors.

ARTHUR BOURCHIER will produce Mr Alfred [illegible]'s comedietta *A Lesson in Harmony* at the [illegible] on Thursday, with a cast including himself, David Domville, Mr F. G. Knott, and Miss [illegible] Bateman.

IN the course of Messrs Victor Widdicombe and Percy Williams's season at the Grand Theatre, Plymouth, a play in four acts, called *On Watch*, by Mr Herbert Russell, son of W. Clark Russell, the well-known sea novelist, will be produced on the 27th inst. It is largely based on suggestions made by the late William Terriss, who was a personal friend of Mr Russell's. *On Watch* will show the sailor in our merchant service as he really is. The cast will include Mr Nelson Ramsey, Mr Charles Aldred, Mr Kenneth Black, Mr E. G. Woodhouse, Mr Fred Davis, Mr Bernard Vaughan, Mr A. F. Koram, Mr Pat Hurd, and Mr Victor Widdicombe. Mrs F. M. Thorne, Miss Jessica Black, Miss Jessie M'Kay, and Miss Clara Russell.

ARBITRATION proceedings were commenced on Monday morning at the Surveyors' Institute before Mr A. T. Franklin in connection with the claim which the Gaiety Theatre Company, Limited, are making against the London County Council. The claim is for the extra expenditure in which the company state they were involved by the demands of the L.C.C., and the consequent alterations made both in the external elevation and the internal construction and fitting of the new theatre over and above the £50,000 which they had agreed with the L.C.C. to spend upon it. The case first came on in the High Court of Justice, but was remitted to an arbitrator.

AN interesting example of how the term "actress" is used by prisoners at the police-courts was given at North London on Saturday, when Emma Hilda Chapple, thirty-four, who was last week said to be "an actress," was charged on remand with being concerned with John Hollick, of Sedgwick-street, Homerton, in obtaining food and lodging by fraud. The evidence was that the female prisoner, who is well connected, met the man, and he proposed marriage, and actually put up the banns. In view of this promise she consented to go and live with him, but when the little money she had was gone he deserted her. She then owed Mrs Ella Smith, of Eleanor-road, Hackney, 30s. for board and lodging. She made various excuses for not paying, one of which was that the money she was expecting from a theatrical manager had not come. She said she was a tragedy actress, and had played in *The Second Mrs Tanqueray*, having £20 a week when on tour, and £3 a week when rehearsing. Mr Fordham, the magistrate, remarked:—I have heard a good deal about your past, Chapple, and I would like, in the interests of a most honourable profession, to say that you are not an actress and never have been. That is so, is it not? Chapple replied:—I have not been on the stage.

MR GEORGE GROSSMITH'S advice to the people who wish to keep a railway compartment exclusively for their own use in a crowded train was one of the best things in his last Recital of the season the other day at St. James's Hall. He deprecated the time-honoured device of filling the vacant seats with bundles of railway rugs, umbrellas, or newspapers. His plan was much more ingenious. A tip to the guard secures the locking of the door, and directly another passenger (usually a disagreeable elderly man with an equally disagreeable wife) begins to rattle the handle and shout to the porters for a key, "Gee Gee" deliberately folds his handkerchief over his head, jumps to his feet, assumes the expression worn by the polite lunatic in Phil May's well-known Dottyville sketches, and dances wildly in front of the window, shouting "Come in! come in! lots of room! Come in!" He says that this simple plan is never known to fail. It would enable any man—who would do it with sufficient spirit—to keep a compartment to himself.

MR ALBERT CHEVALIER was paid a particularly nice compliment a few weeks ago. A friend of his entered into conversation with a man who had just attended one of the Chevalier Recitals, and who was loud in his praises of the whole performance. "What I admire so much about him is his evident lack of professional jealousy," said the man, "for there was a Frenchman appearing in the same programme—a fellow called Monsieur Armand Thibault—who received just as much applause, and he didn't seem to mind it a bit!" It will be remembered that the impersonation of Monsieur Armand Thibault is one of Mr Chevalier's cleverest character sketches.

HERE is another little story of "our only Coster." His manager saw a man gazing doubtfully at the posters outside a provincial hall just before the recital commenced. He ultimately bought a ticket, but seemed inclined to be very critical. Afterwards the manager saw the same man going away with a particularly pleased and happy countenance. "I hope you enjoyed Mr Chevalier's performance?" said the manager. "Yes, yes!" answered the man, with a broad smile. Then, assuming his critical expression—"But I think I prefer oratorio."

SIR HENRY IRVING, who had an enthusiastic reception at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, on Monday, appeared before the curtain at the end of the performance and said:—"Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is my privilege to thank you, and I wish I could thank adequately this most gracious and brilliant company, for your welcome to-night, but it is impossible to do so. I should be grateful if I could say how thankful I am. Believe me, such a welcome as yours is music in one's ears and in one's heart. I thank you most cordially again and again for your most gracious greeting. It is a delight to be in your loved city once again, and it is a delight to find that you have received this play with such favour. It is a very noble theme, I am sure you feel with me, and it is a very noble play, written by a man we all loved and whose memory we revere, our great poet Tennyson. I am delighted to think that you have received his work with such favour. I hope to meet you again and again."

PREPARATIONS are being made for a revival of Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Royal Schauspiel-Haus, Berlin. It is to be on a new and splendid scale. The Royal scene painters and costumiers are busy preparing for the event, the whole of the decorations having been specially ordered. The cast has not yet been decided upon, but it will be composed of the first members of the company. His Imperial Majesty—who is never happier than when he is "bossing the show" at the State theatres—is taking a great personal interest in the revival.

MR ALFRED MARTIN, who was for many years with Mr Milton Bode and has acted as advance manager for Mr Edward Compton on his spring tour, which will terminate to-day at Dalston Theatre, has been engaged by Messrs Melford and Polini as business-manager for their *Silver King* North company.

AT the Paris Opera-Comique the members of the orchestra complain of inadequate salaries, and have held several meetings at the French Labour Exchange to consider their future action. Certain first violins only receive 135f. a month, or £5 8s. 4d. The yearly contracts which they sign can be broken at the will of the manager, and if the chief of the orchestra is changed the men are liable to lose their positions. M. Albert Carré, the director of the Paris Opera-Comique, has offered to receive a deputation of the musicians, and has promised to meet their demands if possible.

MISS KATHLEEN RIND, who has recently concluded a seventeen months' engagement with Mr Norman V. Norman, has been engaged by Miss Lucy Wilson to play Ellean on a summer tour of *The Second Mrs Tanqueray*.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM will revive *The Liars* at the New Theatre on Thursday, with himself and Miss Mary Moore in their original parts, supported by Mr Alfred Bishop, Mr Dennis Eadie, Mr Eille Norwood, Miss Cynthia Brooke, and Miss Sarah Brooke.

MR EDWARD TERRY will end his London season on the 25th inst., when the sixtieth performance of *The House of Burnside* will be given at Terry's Theatre, and will commence his provincial tour on August Bank Holiday.

MR EDWARD COMPTON, appearing to-night for 1,173rd time as David Garrick at the Dalston Theatre, will conclude another long tour with his celebrated comedy company, and will rest for a few weeks. Mr Compton is happily able to write down the past spring tour as one of the most successful he has ever undertaken.

MR ARTHUR HARE and his London company will be at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, for the week beginning June 13. On every evening of the week, except Tuesday, Tom Wotton's screaming farce, *The Eiderdown Quilt*, will be performed, and in this Mr Hare will enact the part of a waiter disguised as a prince. This will be preceded by the Screen scene from *The School for Scandal*, in which Mr Hare will play Sir Peter Teazle. On Tuesday evening will be produced a modern play in three acts, entitled *The Lady and the Lion*, written by Mr Arthur Hare and Mr Ashton Pearse. Mr Hare, who has been very fortunate in securing Miss Janette Steer for his leading lady and Mr T. A. Shannon for an important part, will himself enact the part of a peer, around whom centres the whole interest of the piece. The play is being produced by Mr Cyril Rawdon.

MR WILLIAM GREET is sending two companies of the successful musical comedy *The Earl and the Girl* on tour this autumn. Mr George A. Highland will stage-manage the No. 1 company, which will play a short season of six weeks next Christmas at the New Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.

MASTER CHARLES SEFTON, who will be remembered for his charming performance of Prince Arthur in Mr Tree's revival of *King John*, has relinquished all thoughts of continuing his career in the theatrical profession. The majority of young actors seem, by their own account, to have been intended for the army, and to have drifted on to the stage; but young Sefton is reversing the usual order of things. He has given up the stage, and intends to go into the army.

MRS LANGTRY will cause to be offered for sale by auction at Christie's on the 20th inst. "a casket of jewels," including a brilliant neckchain, brilliant and pearl brooches, a turquoise and brilliant necklace, and emerald, ruby, and brilliant rings.

A MARRIAGE has been arranged between Miss Maud Jeffries, the leading lady of Mr Beerbohm Tree's Australian touring company, and Mr James W. Osborne, a member of the same combination. Miss Jeffries and Mr Osborne have been appearing for a long season at His Majesty's Theatre, Melbourne, in *The Darling of the Gods*.

THE Bandmann Opera company, fifty-two strong, under the personal direction of Maurice E. Bandmann, left Euston Station by special train on Wednesday last to embark on the P.S.N.C. Company's steamer Oravia for Rio de Janeiro. They will tour round South America, returning to England viâ Mexico, the West Indies, and Cuba. The répertory is a large and extensive one, Mr Bandman holding the sole rights of all Mr George Edwardes's and the Gaiety Theatre Company's pieces. Mr Bandmann has concluded arrangements with Sir Alfred Jones, of the Elder Dempster Line, whereby he and Mr Dallas are supplying the whole of the West Indies with theatrical entertainment this year. This will be done with three companies paying six distinct visits to each island.

MISS VERA LONGDEN, who depicted the worn-out work girl so tenderly and sweetly in the Hon. Mrs Alfred Lyttelton's play, *Warp and Woof*, at the Camden, is the daughter of a well-known mining engineer. She has been only a few weeks on the stage. Mr Charles Frohman was so delighted with her performance that he engaged her for a tour of fifty weeks, in which she will enact Alice Faulkner, in *Sherlock Holmes*.

A NEW one-act play entitled *Cutting Out a Prize*, by Fenton Mackay, has been purchased by Mr Edward A. Coventry and Mr John R. Collins, to precede *Thoroughbred* on their forthcoming tour. The piece was performed at the Court on May 26 for copyright purposes.

MR LESLIE NORMAN has scored successfully in every town visited with *A Trip to Chinatown*—which he has had entirely revised and brought up to date, introducing several new musical numbers—and is making arrangements to send out a No. 2 company in the autumn. He is confident that this world-known piece, if elaborately mounted and well played, will draw as much money in the smaller towns as it has done for many years in the more important cities.

THE present tour of the Osmond Tearle Shakespearian company, under the direction of Mr Herbert J. Montague, concludes to-night at Grand Theatre, Stalybridge. After a well-earned holiday of a few weeks Mr Montague will start his next tour at Rotherham on the 18th prox. The company will then include all three sons of the late eminent tragedian—Mr George Osmond Tearle, principal comedian; Mr Godfrey Seymour Tearle, just returned from South Africa; and Mr Malcolm Carswell Tearle, a young gentleman of fifteen years of age who, on leaving school, is adopting his father's profession, and will play the Duke of York in *Richard III.* and other suitable parts.

MISS HUTIN BRITTON, who has just concluded a long engagement with Miss Ellen Terry in London and on tour, has been engaged by Mr Ben Greet to play Katharine, in *The Taming of the Shrew*; Mistress Ford, in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*; and other leading parts in his pastorals during the summer. Miss Britton lately made quite a remarkable success on tour by her powerful portrayal of the extremely difficult rôle of Jo in Miss Terry's production of *The Good Hope*; and also appeared several times as Portia during Miss Terry's recent indisposition.

MR LESLIE CARTER, who has just terminated a six months' engagement as Jack Coulson, in Mr Walter Melville's *Female Swindler*, has been engaged by Mr Charles Frohman for the part of Jim Larrabee, in *Sherlock Holmes*.—Miss Gertrude Scott, who recently scored such a brilliant success at the Shakespearian Festival at Stratford-on-Avon, has been re-engaged by Mr F. R. Benson to repeat her impersonation of Cassandra, at the series of five matinées of the Orestean Trilogy of Æschylus which Mr Benson is giving at the different colleges, commencing on Monday.

THE State of Massachusetts has passed a law protecting American theatres from aldermen and ward councillors, who have claimed privileges on the free list for years past. Any municipal official accepting free tickets henceforth will be liable to a fine of £20.

PRINCESS LOUISE will open the New Royal Victoria Theatre and Pavilion, Ramsgate, on Wednesday, June 29. The local Corporation has invited a distinguished gathering to witness the ceremony. The theatre contains seats for 1,426 people, and a promenade for 500 persons.

MR FRANK CURZON will produce Mr Max Pemberton's new comedy *The Finishing School* at Wyndham's Theatre instead of the Prince of Wales's, as arranged, Madame Réjane commencing her London season at the latter house on Monday. For the first three evenings of her engagement and on Wednesday afternoon she will present a revival of *Zaza*, and on Thursday, with M. Coquelin, Madame Réjane will appear in *La Montansier*. Later on she will take part with M. Antoine in *La Parisienne*.

MR DAVEY has engaged Madame Sarah Bernhardt to appear at a matinée at the Grand Theatre, Islington, on June 28. He will not advance his prices for this special performance, so that Londoners will have an opportunity of hearing and seeing the "divine Sarah" cheaply.

MATTERS are improving considerably at Drury-lane, and Mr Manners on Saturday spoke most cheerfully of the prospects of the season, which he said would very likely continue for six months instead of three as originally announced. He stated that Wagner's *Flying Dutchman* would be shortly produced. Meanwhile a very excellent representation was given of *Lohengrin*, with Miss Clementine De Vere as Elsa and Mr O'Mara as the hero. These performers and Mr Magrath as the King greatly distinguished themselves, and the chorus sang extremely well. *The Jewess* has been repeated with increased success, and *Tannhauser* also met with great favour. In every way the Drury-lane campaign is flourishing and securing larger and larger audiences.

MISS ADA REEVE will produce at a West-end theatre in September the piece entitled *Winnie Brooke, Widow*, which will be presented in London without the numbers which brought it into the category of musical plays.

MRS CYRIL MAUDE (Miss Winifred Emery) on Monday underwent another severe operation at her residence, 26, Cleveland-gardens. It was quite successful, and we are happy to say that she is progressing satisfactorily.

MR AND MRS CARL HENTSCHEL, who have been made president and lady president of the League of Mercy for the Strand District, were amongst the guests of the Prince and Princess of Wales at the garden-party to those prominently connected with the League. It is pleasant to find such an enthusiastic and steady supporter of the drama as Mr Hentschel honoured by an appointment which all must own is admirably appropriate and well-deserved.

MR AUGUSTE VAN BIENE writes to say that he is going to build in each of twelve large towns in England a theatre with a holding capacity of three to four thousand. One shilling will admit to any part of the houses, and theatrical performances will be given twice nightly at seven and nine.

MR SYDNEY STIRLING, who has been engaged by Miss Lucy Wilson and Mr Gordon Bailey for their tour of *The Second Mrs Tanqueray* and *The Profligate*, has played successfully during two years in Australia, under Mr George Musgrove's management, the parts of Cascart, in *Zaza*; Captain Lovell, in *Mice and Men*; Don José, in *A Royal Rival*; and Lord Robert, in *A Country Mouse*. The company visited Western Australia, and had many experiences, one of which nearly terminated Mr Stirling's career, he and another actor being overturned while yachting on the Perth river. Luckily both were expert swimmers, and managed to keep afloat till rescued by a passing steamer. Mr Stirling, who is anticipating an early return visit to the land of the kangaroo, of which he retains many happy memories, is a composer of no mean ability.

MISS ADA FERRAR has returned from America, where she has been since last November playing Madame De Semiano, in *The Marriage of Kitty*, with Miss Marie Tempest, and is re-engaged for the part in the revival of the play at the Avenue Theatre in September.—Miss Violet Sims has completed a sensational four-act drama, entitled *The Brand of Cain*, which will shortly be produced in London.

MR WILLIE CLARKSON provided the majority of the costumes and wigs, and attended to the make-ups, at the Earl of Suffolk's amateur theatrical performances at the Court Theatre this week. Mr Clarkson also performed similar services in connection with the tableaux-vivants held at the Imperial Theatre last Monday in aid of the East-end parish of Bromley-by-Bow.

MR RICHARD THORNTON, resident director of the Empire, Newcastle, and Mr Sidney Bacon, of the Grand, Newcastle; Metropole, Gateshead; Grand, West Hartlepool; and Royal, Stockton-on-Tees, have taken over the Olympia, Newcastle, and intend to run the house as a first-class provincial theatre. The Olympia is one of the largest theatres in Newcastle, and seats 3,000 people. It will be reopened on August Bank Holiday.

MR DUDLEY CLINTON, who concluded last Saturday a most successful starring engagement with Mr Mouillot's *Old Heidelberg* company, playing Mr J. D. Beveridge's part, Dr. Juttner, commenced his own summer tour on Monday at the Opera House, Blackpool, with the evergreen *Betsy* and Pinero's delightful comedy *Dandy Dick*. Mr Clinton has engaged an exceptional company, including W. H. Denny, Henry Doughty, Cyril Harrison, Misses Edith Levland, Mary Jerrold, May Congdon, Elizabeth Watson, and Mrs J. W. Braithwaite.

MR E. HARCOURT WILLIAMS will start his sixth annual pastoral tour in conjunction with Mr Garnet Holme at Croydon on July 4, when he will produce *In a Garden*, a new modern play in one act, written by himself. His company will include Mr A. E. George, who has made such a success in *The House of Burnside*, Mr Herbert Grimwood, and Miss Constance Robertson. In the repertory will be *Much Ado About Nothing*, *As You Like It*, and *My Lady Disdain*, a comedy which was produced with much success on Mr Williams's last tour.

MR FRED BOWYER AND MR E. SPRANGE, the authors of *The New Barmaid*, are writing a new and original musical fairy play, entitled *The Children of the King*, for Mr Bert Coote, who will produce the novelty in London at Christmas. The piece is in two acts and five scenes.

MR REEVES-SMITH, now touring in Canada, spent two years in a stock company in Hull in 1878, and used to play eight or ten parts a week. He was also with the late Barry Sullivan, playing secondary rôles. "About three years in a stock company," says Mr Reeves, "is all right for an actor; but after that he is apt to grow slovenly and substitute words, and does not learn his parts properly when there are so many to master." He spent six years as sporting critic to one of the London papers, and was offered a war correspondentship during the Cuban war.

THE Poets' Corner, Westminster Abbey, was thronged on Thursday afternoon, when the Dickens Society commemorated the thirty-fourth anniversary of the novelist's demise. Special permission was given for the recital of a memorial poem, and, with bowed heads, the assembly listened. The grave was hidden in flowers. Afterwards a meeting was held in Hyde-park, and lectures on Dickens were delivered by specialists. American listeners came forward to speak in appreciation of the observances, and a transatlantic authority stated that ten sets of Dickens are sold in America to one in England, and that clubs named after our lamented story-teller are very numerous.

SIR HENRY IRVING, at the Clement Scott matinée at His Majesty's Theatre on the 23rd inst., will, besides appearing as Corporal Brewster, in *Waterloo*, recite "The Dream of Eugene Aram." Mr George Alexander will take the principal part in the production of a new one-act romantic play of the sixteenth century called *Flower o' the Rose*, written by Mr William J. Locke.

WE have to announce the death of Madame Alva, the dramatic soprano, which took place on the 2nd inst., at 21, Airedale-avenue, Chiswick, at the age of thirty-four. Madame Alva was a native of Burnley, Lancashire, and for some years, was a pupil in Italy of those eminent masters, Signor Carelli, of Naples, and Signor Moretti, of Milan. As a singer Madame Alva ranked high; and she excelled as an interpreter of the two opposite schools—the Wagnerian and the florid Italian. In grand opera in England she made her début under the management of the late Sir Augustus Harris, in the part of Santuzza, in Mascagni's *Cavalleria Rusticana*, and in Italy in the same part, under the management of the well-known Signor Edoardo Sonzogno. Madame Alva and Madame Melba were the stars of the Donizetti Century Festival, held in Bergamo in 1897, Madame Alva being the dramatic soprano and Madame Melba the lyric. In 1898 she visited Australia. The deceased lady was a fine musician, an excellent linguist, and a woman of large general knowledge. She had been in declining health for the last eighteen months, and a neglected cold developed into consumption, which finally carried her off. Her husband, Mr St. John Brenon, was abroad when he received the sad news of his wife's death. The funeral took place on Tuesday, in the cemetery attached to Chiswick Old Church. The grave is not far from the last resting-place of the late James M'Neil Whistler. Madame Alva leaves an only daughter. The last time she sang in public was on Feb. 13 this year at the Grand Orchestral Concert, held under the direction of Mr Dan Godfrey, at the Winter Gardens, Bournemouth, in commemoration of the anniversary of the death of Wagner.

MR MULHOLLAND at the recent annual meeting presided over by Lord Glenesk, was unanimously elected a life governor of the West London Hospital, in acknowledgment of the handsome sums which were realised for that institution at the special matinée and the New Year's collection on its behalf at the King's Theatre.

MISS HILDA TREVELYAN, who was Fi Fi the Second in *A Chinese Honeymoon* at the Strand Theatre, shows more affection for harmless, necessary cats than for any other animals. Even her Christmas cards were reproductions of a drawing of a black kitten that is its mistress's especial favourite. Miss Trevelyan lives in a quaint, pretty flat in old Chelsea, where many of the pictures and ornaments are reminiscent of her long tour with *The Little Minister*, in which she was such a delightful little Lady Babble.

MR EDWARD A. COVENTRY, so long associated with Mr J. L. Toole's company, in conjunction with Mr John R. Collins, is touring the clever and successful farcical comedy, *Thoroughbred*, by Ralph R. Lumley, in the coming autumn, visiting all the principal cities. The piece ran over 300 nights in London, and was a great success in New York and Melbourne. Messrs Coventry and Collins have been fortunate in securing the services of Mr W. J. Lancaster, who has had great and varied experience in booking companies.

THE King and Queen, the Duchess of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha and her daughter, Princess Beatrice, Prince John of Glucksburg, and suite were present at the performance of *La Bohème* at the Royal Opera, Covent-garden, on Monday.—The King and Queen, the Archduke Frederic of Austria, the Duchess of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, Princess Beatrice of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and Prince John of Glucksburg were present at the performance of *Die Meistersinger* at the Royal Opera, Covent-garden, on Wednesday.

MISS MARJORIE MURRAY, who for so long played Cissie Denver, in *The Silver King*; Stephanus, in *The Sign of the Cross*; and until quite recently Alice Faulkner, in *Sherlock Holmes*, and is now taking a well-earned rest under medical advice, will resume her connection with Mr Chas. Frohman's companies in the autumn.—Mr H. Leonard Williams has been engaged by Mr Bert Wentworth for the juvenile part in *That Woman from France*.

MR OSWALD BRAND will revive *The Colleen Bawn* on Monday week at the Grand Theatre, and a little later will present *Rob Roy* at the same house. At present Mr Brand is engaged in writing a new play entitled *A True Lover's Knot*, which he intends to produce at the Islington Theatre in the early autumn.

"TROOPER HUNT'S WIDOW," an original farce, by Fred Jarman, produced at the Tunbridge Wells Opera House, on Saturday last, had a very cordial reception. The plot turns upon Trooper Hunt—back from South Africa, where he was reported dead—deciding to impersonate his own widow in order to avoid certain legal complications under a will. Attired in pronounced widow's weeds, and possessing auburn ringlets and a pronounced Irish brogue, Trooper Hunt visits his cousin's farm-house and finds his cousin carrying on a flirtation with his—the Trooper's—old sweetheart, who believes her soldier lover dead, and has no idea that he ever married and left a widow. The trooper uses the opportunity to test the fidelity of his old sweetheart. Much rollicking fun is created, and the audience is kept in continual merriment.

THE title-rôle was admirably played by Mr Wilfred E. Shine, who gave a most humorous imitation of a Hibernian widow. Miss Susie Oak supplied a very sympathetic interpretation of the sweetheart, whose recollection of her old love remains unshaken. Miss Zoe Gilfillan provided a humorous study as a wardrobe dealer, and Miss Amy Edmonds was a charming vicar's daughter. Mr Alec Flood as the trooper's agricultural cousin also added to the success of the piece; and three neighbours had excellent representatives in Messrs Cecil H. Fowler, Joseph Hudson, and George M'Closkie, who provided a considerable share of the fun. Mr Howard Cridland as the family solicitor gave a good study.

THE Bradford City Council last week met to receive and consider the minutes of their Education Committee. A resolution was moved by Mr E. J. Smith—"That the following regulation with regard to places licensed for stage plays, made at the last meeting of the Council, be rescinded, namely, 'The theatre shall be closed not later than half-past eleven o'clock every evening,' and that the following regulation be substituted therefor, 'The theatre shall be closed not later than eleven o'clock every evening.'" The resolution was defeated by thirty-three votes to sixteen.

IN the Court of Bankruptcy on the 3rd inst. a sitting was held for the public examination of John Joseph Peel. The debtor, according to the observations of the Official Receiver, was the composer of the song "Oh, tell me once again." He had also composed another song called "When I left old England," but it was not yet published. The debtor attributed his failure to bad trade in connection with the business of a blouse manufacturer, which he carried on at Walthamstow. The examination was concluded, the liabilities being returned at £1,004 and the assets at £102.

MISS VIOLA TREE'S LONDON DEBUT.

On Tuesday, June 7, at His Majesty's Theatre, Shakespeare's Comedy, "TWELFTH NIGHT."

Orsino	Mr JULIAN L'ESTRANGE
Sebastian	Mr CHAS. QUARTERMAINE
Antonio	Mr OSCAR ASCHE
A Sea Captain	Mr J. FISHER WHITE
Valentine	Mr P. R. GOODYER
Curio	Mr ERIC LESLIE
Sir Toby Belch	Mr LIONEL BROUGH
Sir Andrew Aguecheek	Mr NORMAN FORBES
Malvolio	Mr TREE
Priest	Mr S. A. COOKSON
First Officer	Mr FRANCIS CHAMIER
Second Officer	Mr J. B. FRASER
Fabien	Mr CECIL ROSE
Feste	Mr WILLIAM HAVILAND
Olivia	Miss CONSTANCE COLLIER
Maria	Miss CICELY RICHARDS
Viola	Miss VIOLA TREE

The matinée performance given at His Majesty's Theatre on Tuesday was on behalf of the Children's Fresh Air Fund, and the occasion was marked by the first appearance of Miss Viola Tree on the London stage in a speaking part. She has been playing the important character of Viola with Mr Tree's company in the provinces, and reports of the success achieved by the young actress have heralded her London début. Tuesday's performance proved that the flattering accounts of Miss Tree already received had by no means been over-coloured. The severe test of appearing in a leading Shakespearian part before a crowded and critical London audience was undergone with most gratifying results. Indeed, the degree of success won by Miss Tree on this important occasion surpasses what the most sanguine could reasonably have expected. Though she naturally has much in her favour, it does not follow that the daughter of parents who have gained distinction on the stage should find her vocation in the same profession. She must possess certain indispensable qualifications—a good appearance and voice, a graceful manner, and intelligence of a high order are amongst the most important. Happily Miss Tree has these qualifications, together with the indefinable charm which is partly natural and partly the result of the most careful training for the stage. If her Viola had been nothing but a fair amateur effort by a pretty girl endowed with the fascination of youth, one would not have been surprised, but it was something more than that. It was tender, playful, pathetic, and charming in every mood. Quite fitting was it that the song "Come away, Death," allotted to the Clown, should be given instead to Viola, seeing that she, when expressing her intention of serving the Duke, says, "For I can sing and speak to him in many sorts of music that will allow me very worth his service." And Miss Tree sang the song admirably, thoroughly meriting the encore accorded her. The enthusiastic reception given the young actress was not merely a friendly and encouraging one—it expressed the recognition of real ability which with increased stage experience should enable Mr Tree's daughter to attain a high position in the profession of which her parents are honoured members. Miss Constance Collier gave complete satisfaction by her well-studied embodiment of Olivia, and Miss Cicely Richards entered fully into the spirit of the part of the mischief-loving waiting-maid Olivia. Mr Tree repeated his clever study of Malvolio, and the character of the conceited steward received full justice at his hands. Mr Julian L'Estrange was a gallant Orsino, and Mr Charles Quartermaine played well as Sebastian. Mr Oscar Asche imparted an air of distinction to the rôle of Antonio. Mr Lionel Brough was again delightfully humorous in his embodiment of Sir Toby Belch, and Mr Norman Forbes succeeded well in depicting the peculiarities of Sir Andrew Aguecheek. Mr P. R. Goodyer as Valentine and Mr Eric Leslie as Curio were praiseworthy. Mr William Haviland made good use of his opportunities as Feste, the jester. Mr S. A. Cookson was well suited as the Priest, other minor rôles being safely entrusted to Messrs J. Fisher White, Francis Chamier, and J. B. Fraser. At the final fall of the curtain, and after the smiling and evidently gratified debutant had been presented with numerous bouquets and baskets of flowers, Mr Tree announced that he was "delighted to find the presence of that audience would give a day of fresh air and happiness to twenty thousand little children." Then, after a pause, he added: "I am also proud and very happy to think that our dear daughter should have made so excellent a début." No money was taken for the souvenir programmes, which were beautifully printed in many colours, with a picture of children romping in the fields on the front cover and a well-executed portrait of Miss Tree on the back.

UNION JACK CLUB MATINEE.

A fashionable audience was drawn to the Adelphi, on Thursday afternoon, by the announcement of a special matinée, under distinguished patronage, in aid of the funds for endowing cubicles for the use of the Royal Marines at the Union Jack Club. Mr William Greet had kindly lent the theatre, and the Adelphi company, headed by Mr Walter Passmore, Mr Henry Lytton, Mr Robert Evett, Miss Louie Pounds, and Miss Agnes Fraser, provided the principal attraction of the afternoon in the presentation of the first act of *The Earl and the Girl*. The performance preserved all the familiar features that have become so popular with the playgoing public. Mr Walter Passmore, once more falsely accused of being an aristocrat, was as funny as he knows how to be, and the humours of Jim Cheese, and the many droll things he has to say, kept the audience in roars of laughter. Mr Henry A. Lytton in the Mediterranean ditty brought down the house with that particularly bright number, and the dainty chorus never went better. Miss Agnes Fraser bubbled over with mirth in the funny and clever duet, and Miss Louie Pounds again sang sweetly. Mr Robert Evett did full justice to his numbers, and Mr M. R. Morand added to the brightness and jollity by his performance of Downham. Miss Florence Lloyd played the typical London girl Liza Shoddam in her own characteristic way, and carefully avoided overemphasising the part. Miss Helen Kinnaird was genuinely funny as the strong woman Miss Shimmering Black; Mr Frank Elliston made the Israelite Mr Talk a possible portrait of a member of the chosen race; and Mr John C. Dixon's Bunker Bliss was as fiercely American as one could possibly desire. The performance went with great vim and spirit, under the direction of Mr Hamish M'Cunn. The second part was mostly made up of incidentals. It was opened in lively and spirited fashion by Miss Winifred Hart Dyke, who footed it delightfully in a jig that used to be an attraction at the Savoy in the days of *Merrie England*. Another Savoy attraction was "The Four Jolly Sailor Men," from *The Princess of Kensington*, the jolly Jack Tars being again impersonated by their original representatives, Messrs H. A. Lytton, Powis Pinder, Childerstone, and Rudolph Lewis. The joyousness of *The Cherry Girl* was reflected in the selection by Mr Seymour Hicks and chorus of "Rip Van Winkle," with up-to-date references concerning politicians. Mr Rutland Barrington recited the American piece, "Pickett's Nell," with that perfect enunciation and emphasis that are customary with him; Miss May Yohe and chorus sang "No coon am pining;" and the popular "Sammy" found an arch interpreter in Miss Louie Pounds. Other contributions to a matinée that was in every way a success included a charming rendering by Mr Robert Evett of the pretty tenor solo, "The English Rose," from *Merrie England*; a monologue on things in general and nothing in particular by Mr Malcolm Scott, who said he was glad they were going to give "carbuncles" to the Marines; the very appropriate song and chorus from *The Princess of Kensington* entitled "Join the Red Marines;" and "Cosy Corner," by Mr H. A. Lytton, Miss Agnes Fraser, and chorus.

"A GENTLEMAN OF FRANCE."

A Dramatisation, by Harriet Ford, of Stanley Weyman's Novel, Produced at the Avenue Theatre, on Saturday, June 4.

Gaston De Marsac	Mr MURRAY CARSON
Henry of Navarre	Mr GEO. SILVER
Vicomte De Turenne	Mr G. A. TRAVERNER
Baron De Rosny	Mr J. D. SAUNDERS
M. De Bruhl	Mr J. J. BARTLETT
M. Fresnoy	Mr JAMES C. AUBREY
Simon Fliex	Mr BLAKE ADAMS
M. D'Aubeterre	Mr ANNAND
M. D'Auremberg	Mr HAROLD
M. D'Paul	Mr ATTWATER
Provost Marshal	Mr CHAS. TERRIC
Pierre Senach	Mr GEO. HARTLEY
Matthew	Mr GEO. WILLIAMS
Mark	Mr O. BARNETT
Jean Perrault	Mr S LANGTON
Victor Papin	Mr F. ELTON
Landlord	Mr LAUNDY
Fanchette	Miss MARIANNE CALDWELL
Mathurine	Miss J. STERLING MACKINLAY
Mme De Bruhl	Miss DORA DE WINTON
Countess De Grammont	Miss CULL
A Page	Miss IRIS LABROW
Mdlle. De La Vire	Miss ESME BERINGER

It is curious how much depends upon the way in which a thing is done. *A Gentleman of France*, Miss Harriett Ford's adaptation of Mr Stanley Weyman's well-known novel, is not more sensational and melodramatic than *Under the Red Robe*, or some other successful "cut-and-thrust" plays which we can recall. These, however, had the advantage of being lavishly mounted, of being acted thoroughly well "down to the very humblest," and of being supplied with illusive and complete accessories. The Avenue presentation *A Gentleman of France* is lamentably deficient in these helpful adjuncts. The Court of Henry of Navarre is not an imposing gathering; and the cream and flower of Huguenot chivalry is not quite satisfactorily impersonated. At one point the heroine has to be abducted by a descent from the balcony of a castle. In the "rough and ready" spirit, the supposed stonework had been sawn away, in order to permit a ladder to be placed against the framework. Nor can it be said that the acting was, all of it, up to West-end form. The production, in short, was a scanty and uneven one, and failed to carry conviction with the occupants of the stalls, who are more fastidious in these matters than those of the pit and gallery. If the Avenue management depends for the success of *A Gentleman of France* upon the patronage of the higher-priced portions of the house, we fear that disappointment will ensue; but the piece might do pretty well in the suburbs or the provinces.

Mr Stanley Weyman has a very sound and workman-like method; and his stories have the true dash and swing of romantic drama. The brave but poor and neglected gentleman adventurer has been a favourite with the public since the days of Dumas the Elder, and will be as long as pluck, energy, and courage remain "gods of our idolatry." Gaston De Marsac, the hero of *A Gentleman of France*, is a very picturesque and winning personage. The son of a good family, he is reduced almost to starvation, and he offers his arm and sword to Henry of Navarre, the hope of the Huguenot party. The courtiers play upon De Marsac a practical joke, sending him a forged letter inviting him to visit Henry's Court; and when he arrives they jeer at him. M. De Bruhl, one of Henry's supporters, is weary of his wife, and is unholily enamoured of Mdlle. De La Vire, a relation of the Vicomte De Turenne. De Bruhl insults her with his addresses, and De Marsac declares himself her champion. As Mdlle. De La Vire, who is a warm Navarrite, knows some dangerous State secrets, her relative, the Vicomte, allows De Bruhl to kidnap her and carry her to Turenne's Castle of Chizé. Thence Henry of Navarre desires to have her rescued; and he entrusts the task to De Marsac, who undertakes it gladly. He succeeds in getting the lady away, and brings her to Blois; but she is again decoyed by De Bruhl's orders, and again imprisoned—this time in the Vicomte De Turenne's house. De Marsac follows, and, in the attempt to get her out of the room where she is detained, he is set upon by the whole of De Bruhl's followers. He kills or wounds them all, remaining master of the field and the lady; for by this time Mdlle. De La Vire has fallen in love with him. Henry De Navarre puts De Marsac to the test of heavy bribery to see if he will resign Mademoiselle; but he refuses indignantly, and the Vicomte De Turenne consents to the union of the adventurer and the heiress, De Bruhl being exiled to a command in Brittany.

Mr Murray Carson gave a remarkable embodiment of Gaston De Marsac. He made a most virile and picturesque swashbuckler, and gave to his reading of the part all the necessary romantic and *flamboyant* feeling. Throughout, he sustained the character with spirit and skill; and the brisk activity of his sword-play, and the whole-hearted manner in which he delivered his tirades, were quite in harmony with the personage and the nature of the piece. Miss Esmé Beringer played Mdlle. De La Vire admirably, taking full advantage of the one intensely dramatic situation—that in which the lady, in order to gain time for her rescue, submits to the caresses of the detested De Bruhl, and then with passionate gestures makes as though she would cleanse herself of the defilement. Mr J. D. Saunders as De Rosny might have stepped out of a picture of the period, so effective was his make-up and appearance; and he acted with a quiet power which was entirely agreeable. Mr G. A. Traverner played the Vicomte De Turenne creditably; and Mr J. J. Bartlett gave a cool, resolute, and sharply decisive rendering of the rôle of M. De Bruhl. Mr James C. Aubrey was duly coarse, brutal, and cowardly as Fresnoy; and Mr Blake Adams contributed a neat and sensitive performance of the part of Simon Fliex. Miss Marianne Caldwell was a buxom and amusing Fanchette, and caused great laughter by her comical tumble in the descent of the ladder in the second act of the play. Miss Dora De Winton depicted the injured but amiable Mme. De Bruhl with a charming delicacy and a refined grace that made one regret she was so little seen and heard; and Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay was impish and alert as Mathurine. Some of the other characters were sustained with great goodwill, but with an absence of the needed experience and authority. *A Gentleman of France* had what may be called a "varied" reception. Some of the absurdities of the piece, such as the escaping party shouting at the top of their voices regardless of the danger of disturbing the garrison of Chizé, inevitably evoked mild amusement, but the fight on the staircase brought down the act-drop amidst uproarious and enthusiastic applause; and there was a cordial repetition of this expression of feeling at the conclusion of the performance.

AT the Grand Theatre, Margate, Mr Fred Storey and his company are appearing this week in *Rip Van Winkle*, in which Mr Storey sustains the title-rôle with much effectiveness. Miss Lilian Holmes enacts Gretchen admirably, and able support is given by the company. The play is preceded each evening by that bright little piece *An Imperial Yeoman*, the characters in which are sustained by Mr A. M. Stapley, Mr Herbert Burney, Mr Cyril Dickins, and Miss Sylvia Storey.

WIDESPREAD interest was created by the recent offer of a first prize of £25 by the proprietors of the well-known dentifrice and mouth wash Odol for a phrase which would correctly and tersely describe the advantage of their preparation. Considerably over a hundred thousand suggestions were received in twenty thousand odd letters, which came from as many contestants. The first prize was awarded to Mr F. F. Loyd, of Wellington College, Berks, and the third to Mr J. R. Barnshaw, of Tanglinvillas, Chaldon-road, Caterham, the second prize falling to the lot of Mrs K. Davidson, of Bridgend, South Wales.

A CHAT WITH MR. CECIL BARTH.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

Mr Cecil Barth, who is resigning his position as general manager to Mr Bert Coote, has taken over the entire rights of *An Actor's Romance* from the latter gentleman, and will start his first tour with it on August Bank Holiday, opening at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester. Mr Barth informs us that as the arrangements in connection with the autumn and winter tours of Mr Bert Coote's *The Fatal Wedding* are now practically completed, he will sever his connection with that gentleman at the end of July.

"No," says Mr Barth, in reply to a query; "*An Actor's Romance* is not altogether a companion play to *The Fatal Wedding*. There is a deeply pathetic story interspersed with rollicking comedy scenes in both plays, but whereas the child interest is one of the chief attractions in *The Fatal Wedding*, quite a different chord of sympathy is struck in *An Actor's Romance*. The leading parts are all strong and well defined, and the domestic side, as well as the professional side, of an actor's life is depicted. Since it was produced at the Camden Theatre it has undergone a little alteration. We found that in parts it was too American for English audiences, and some of the incidents that made a hit in America were not at all understood in England. We consulted the author, Mr Theodore Kremer, who is now in London, and several of the scenes have been remodelled in such a way that the quick action of the play and the interest itself are kept up from the beginning to the end. In accordance with the general custom in America, we are introducing some very bright coon songs and dances, and, in addition, the incidental music is made quite a feature of both vocally and instrumentally. As a matter of fact, we shall travel our own musical director and trained vocalists for the concerted items so as to ensure a satisfactory ensemble. The scenery has been specially designed and painted by Mr Cecil Hicks, and includes two beautiful sets of exteriors on the banks of the Hudson River. The dresses are being supplied by Messrs Nathan and Clarkson."

And now Mr Barth gives us an interesting insight into his previous professional experiences. During the last year of the late Sir Augustus Harris's life Mr Barth was engaged to look after all the musical arrangements at Olympia. Then he had the management of the Alexandra Palace for two seasons, followed by a season of promenade concerts at Covent-garden Opera House. He was the pioneer in arranging the provincial tours of the six bands of the Guards' Brigade, and was associated with that popular conductor M. Jules Rivière and his orchestra, as manager, for the last three years of the well-known French musician's life. Previous to joining Mr Bert Coote, Mr Barth acted as general manager of the New Palace Pier, Brighton, for a couple of years, resigning that appointment to look after Mr Coote's affairs at the Princess's Theatre at the time *The Fatal Wedding* was produced in London.

Mr Barth's first professional engagement on the stage occurred at the age of thirteen, when he

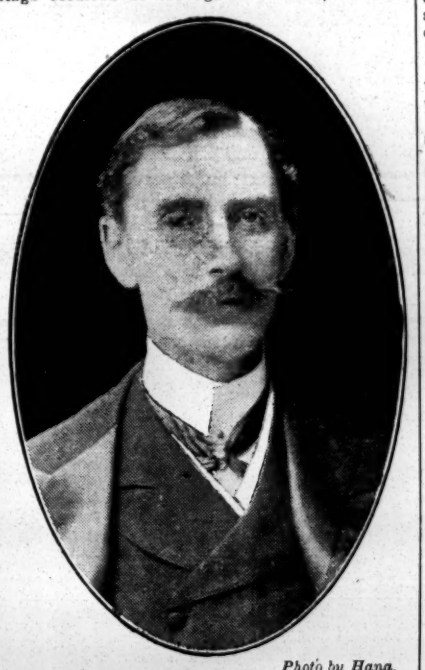

Photo by Hana.

MR. CECIL BARTH.

played the part of Henri, Marquis De Corneville, in a children's production of *Les Cloches de Corneville*, organised by the late Charles Bernard. Mr Bert Coote played the part of the Baillie, and his sister Carrie the part of Serpolette, so it will be seen that Mr Coote and Mr Barth are fairly old friends. "We played," says Mr Barth, "in a series of matinées at the Gaiety Theatre, then under the direction of Mr John Hollingshead, and our first performance was witnessed by the principal members of the Gaiety company, including Nellie Farren, Kate Vaughan, Fred Leslie, who were occupying stalls. I can tell you, it was a most trying ordeal. I have had, in addition, five years' experience of juvenile and light comedy characters. My last engagement was with Sir Charles Wyndham's company at the Criterion, when I followed George Giddens in the part of Dick Talbot, in *Betsy*, the other members in the cast at that time including Miss Lottie Venne, Miss Ellaline Terriss, Miss Fanny Robertson, Miss Rose Saker, and Messrs Herbert Standing, Alfred Maltby, and William Blakeley."

For so young a man—the subject of this interview is only thirty-seven years of age—Mr Barth has had a remarkably busy and eventful life. But then he has always been blessed with a restless disposition and a superabundance of energy, and, add to these, a first-class constitution, you have in him a very strenuous worker.

Mr Barth has something to say concerning the condition of theatrical touring at the present day; and we give his opinions on our usual principle of allowing each of our supporters "to have his say." "I think," he remarks, "that the resident managers are having it all their own way, and they are gradually killing off the geese who lay the golden eggs. Before long, however, there is bound to be a radical change. The way in which touring managers are screwed down in terms, and the utter lack of push and enterprise on the part of many of the resident managers in running their theatres, is bringing about most disastrous results. The resident managers should realise that in order to have flourishing times, theatrically speaking, they must allow the touring managers to live. This applies more particularly to managers of drama companies. Musical comedy companies toured by such men as George Edwardes, Tom B. Davies, and George Dance can afford to dictate their own terms to the resident-managers, but with drama companies during the past three or four years the managers have been starved and many of them utterly ruined. The result is that the salaries paid to artists in drama are getting worse and worse. I received a letter only this morning from the manager of one of the suburban theatres respecting a booking. I quoted our lowest sharing terms at 60 per cent. of the gross receipts. He writes back and says that my letter has nearly frightened him out of his wits, that he seldom, if ever, gives more than from 30 to 35 per cent. for drama companies, but that he knows the excellence of the companies which we always send out, and he, therefore, has much pleasure in forwarding the contracts at the terms we named. That is all right so far as we are concerned, but what about the managers who are forced to accept the lower terms? Look at their risks—cost of printing, £20 to £30; railway fares, cartage, scenery, dresses, properties, &c. No wonder actors and actresses are having such bad times. Again, there are many resident managers who offer 40 to 50 per cent. after the first £100 or £150 has been taken. Possibly £200 is taken on the week, and the touring manager is allotted £25 for his share as against £175 taken by the resident manager. The latter makes a very respectable profit at the expense of the visiting manager and his company. Of course, the resident managers may have something to say on this topic, and a controversy might do good. Perhaps by hearing both sides some of the defaulters might be brought to realise the short-sightedness of their sweating policy."

A CHARITY MATINEE.

To give London children country air and a halcyon time in the fields is the aim of the St. Barnabas Holiday Home at Buxted, in Sussex, where wan-faced and invalid youngsters are received the whole of the year, the board-school holidays being reserved for more vigorous kiddies. The good achieved by such charities is incalculable, and it was poetically proclaimed during Tuesday afternoon, at the Duke of York's Theatre, in a poem by Miss Ethel Clifford, most delightfully given by Miss Irene Vanbrugh, who emphasised with rare grace and simplicity the appeal of the neatly written verses to send London children where the kingcups grow, and "where Spring, the maiden, all unseen, robes the earth in gold and green." The afternoon was distinguished by a couple of novelties. The first, from the pen of Mr Edward H. Cooper, proved to be a dramatic episode, entitled

"ATOMS IN THE FRENCH REVOLUTION."

The Marquis de Chartres	Mr BASIL GILL
Monsieur Norval	Mr ERNEST LEIGH
Saxe	Mr FRANK VERNON
Picard	Mr C. J. WALTERS
Marguerite	Miss RUBY MARSDEN
Hélène	Miss MINNIE LITCHFIELD

Mr Cooper presents an incident of the Reign of Terror. In La Force two men are immured—each with a daughter. The fate of the Marquis de Chartres, an aristocrat, is practically sealed, but M. Norval, the restaurant keeper, is not proscribed, and may gain his liberty when he likes. The Marquis, who is concerned in a plot for the rescue of Marie Antoinette, suggests that he should change names and positions with Norval in order to aid the conspirators; and when the gaolers arrive it is the restaurant keeper who answers to the name of the aristocrat and goes forth. Hélène, Norval's child, bravely consents to the sacrifice; but De Chartres—who learns from the gaolers that the plot has been discovered, and that the sacrifice of Norval is therefore useless—becomes conscience-stricken, confesses to the imposture, and is led away. The two girls fall into each other's arms, sobbing, as the curtain falls. Mr Basil Gill, who had been kindly lent by Mr Tree, made a striking and dignified figure of the Marquis De Chartres, a member of the *vieille noblesse*; Mr Ernest Leigh made an effective Monsieur Norval; and the grim ferocity of the gaolers was sufficiently suggested by Mr Frank Vernon and Mr C. J. Walters. Miss Minnie Litchfield, a sweet-looking Saxon maiden in her early teens, played the distressful part of Hélène prettily; and Miss Ruby Marsden in her quieter moments was quite satisfactory as Marguerite. At the conclusion the author was called, and clusters of roses were handed to the young ladies of the company. By permission of Mr Tree, Mr Francis Chamier directed the production of the piece.

For the second one-act piece produced Miss E. A. Thurlow was responsible. It is a little comedy of modern life, and is entitled

"THE ANDERSON HEIRLOOMS."

Jim Anderson	Mr BEN WEBSTER
Daniel Petwyn	Mr G. S. TITHERADGE
Barker	Mr REGINALD WALTER
Hester Anderson	Miss DORA BARTON
Mary	Miss SYBIL NOBLE
Irene Leslie	Miss GRANVILLE

As a matter of fact "the Anderson heirlooms" do not exist. It is a little fiction worked by Jim Anderson when he marries Hester, the ward of the rich but eccentric Mr Petwyn. The diamonds worn by her were never round the neck of Marie Antoinette, but were bought from a jeweller's in Bond-street, and, unfortunately for Jim's peace of mind, have not been paid for. Hester has also practised deceit, for Jim is not aware that the rich and rare gems worn by her are paste imitations of the so-called "heirlooms" which she has sold to pay the tradesmen's bills. Poor as they are, the happy pair put a good face upon matters when Uncle Daniel (Mr Petwyn) comes to dinner and sees Hester's husband for the first time. Jim so favourably impresses the old gentleman that he talks of finding him a comfortable land agent's birth, and insists upon sending for Barker, the Bond-street jeweller, to buy his niece a wedding present. Hester seems strangely averse to showing the necklace, which Barker unhesitatingly pronounces to be very good paste; and Jim has to confess that the Anderson family had no heirlooms. The uncle, whose creed it is to punish those who make rash marriages by refusing to help them, is about to depart, but is drawn back by a fascinating widow, Mrs Irene Leslie, whom he has met at Teneriffe. He is violently in love with her, and as the price of her consent she demands the forgiveness of the young people. The authoress was warmly called at the conclusion, and there should be no difficulty in finding a place for her piece in the evening bill of a West-end theatre. Mr Ben Webster acted with buoyancy and sincerity the part of Jim Anderson. Mr G. S. Titheradge was the grim and practical uncle who learns to value the lessons of love by a happy experience, and he cleverly portrayed the hard-headed but kindly man of the world. Of course Miss Granville made a delightful widow, positively bubbling over with good humour; and equally charming was Miss Dora Barton as Hester Anderson. Other items in the afternoon bill included a series of clever imitations by Mr George Smith-Wright, who in a short burlesque drama introduced clever mimicry of Messrs Beerbohm Tree, Wilson Barrett, Frederick Kerr, Cyril Maude, Herbert Waring, Lewis Waller, George Alexander, Albert Chevalier, Forbes Robertson, and Sir Charles Wyndham. Mr Egerton Castle and Mr W. H. C. Staveley gave a fencing display; Miss M. Duckett recited with much expression "A Parable of Nature" from the Swedish; and Mr Holbrook Blinn, who could not appear with Miss Evie Greene in a scene from *The Duchess of Dantzic* on account of that lady's indisposition, recited a piece by Will Carleton with his customary force. The band of the Duke of York's Military School played selections under the direction of Mr J. Murphy. The house, which was kindly lent by Mr Charles Frohman, was crowded with a society audience.

MISS VIOLET SIMS, late leading lady in the *Home, Sweet Home*, company, has just completed a sensational four-act drama, entitled *The Brand of Cain*, which will be shortly produced in London.

A PROFESSIONAL matinée of *Richard Lovelace* will be given on Thursday next at the Kennington Theatre.

MR BARTON M'GUCKIN writes to deny that he can be correctly described as "the late." "I have," he says, "been as noted for punctiliousness in the matter of keeping appointments as for my excellence in other good qualities." We hope the veteran tenor has many years of happy life ahead.

LOUIE FREEAR AT HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, June 6, the Military Play, by Stephen Bond and B. Soane Roby, entitled "BOY BOB."

Miss Louie Freear's engagement at the King's, Hammersmith, this week may well be called, as it is on the bills, an "exceptional" one. Messrs Bond and Roby's piece, which was produced at the Metropole Theatre on Sept 25, 1899, employs the full scope of Miss Freear's remarkable talent. The story is not only cleverly invented; the dialogue is smartly and intelligently written, and the characters are drawn naturally and distinctly. Those of Miss Freear's many friends who are tempted to pay a visit to Mr Mulholland's handsome Hammersmith house will find nothing too exaggerated or crudely sensational in the drama in which she appears. A simple and touching tale is treated with a tact and sensitiveness which ensure the full effect of the pathetic situations; and the piece, besides, brims over with spirit, fun, and humour. Boy Bob is a waif, the natural son of Captain Winton and an adventuress named Lottie Brenton. A pensioned sergeant named Daniels, who has had a sunstroke in India, and has taken to drink, has been crazed by the way in which he has been jilted by Lottie, who when engaged to marry him threw him over in order to become Winton's mistress. Daniels is ignorant of the identity of the man who he considers robbed him of his sweetheart; and Captain Winton is quite unaware that he is the father of Bob, whom he has kindly befriended. Lottie Brenton appears on the scene of action, and blackmails Winton, who is deeply repentant of his early errors, and is in love with Edith Vincent, the daughter of his Colonel. The adventuress tells Bob of his relationship to his Captain; but, as she hints that Winton would not care to be informed of it, Bob resolves to keep the secret. Daniels discovers that Winton is the man whom Lottie went away with, and tries to shoot him; but Bob intercepts the bullet, and falls fatally wounded. Before he dies he makes his identity known to Winton in a scene of irresistible pathos. The action is embellished with an abundance of local colour, in the shape of sketches of individual officers and privates and of barrack life generally.

Miss Louie Freear is so famous and popular a comedienne that her powers of pathetic acting are unknown to many of her admirers. Her performance as Boy Bob stamps her as an actress of marvellous versatility and an artist to the tips of her fingers. As the droll, brave little drummer, she touches the fount of tears and the springs of laughter by turns; and the audience surrenders itself completely to the magic of her method. In all she does Miss Freear is absolutely natural and unexaggerated. Without raising her voice she makes herself audible in the farthest corner of the gallery, and without strain or emphasis she sends every point home to the very hearts of her hearers. The sadness of the lad, the pet of the regiment, yet practically motherless and fatherless; his yearning to make his kinship known to his Captain; his self-sacrificing resolve to restrain his keen desire rather than do anything to distress his parent and benefactor; his quaint, dry observations, redolent of the "cuteness" of the waif and stray; his military smartness and his pride in the regiment and the "King's uniform"—all these are illustrated by Miss Freear in a manner which makes her embodiment a true, tender, and triumphantly successful achievement. She is supported by a company well worthy of her and of the piece. Let it be said at once that, in this production, the illusion is not injured by a feature of military life utterly unlike the real thing. On the contrary, every care has been taken that the details of the *vie au caserne* shall be correctly supplied, and the officers and privates are genuinely and smartly soldier-like. Mr Stephen Bond, besides catching the professional style and carriage well, acts with deep earnestness and feeling as Captain Winton, making the character quite sympathetic. Miss Adelina Bourne, a clever and intellectual actress, as Lottie Brenton is distinctive and striking. An amusing representation of a frisky widow is given by Miss Eileen Munro, who as Mrs Caudraugh acts most comically, and without exaggeration or caricature. The comedy element is well supplied throughout, Mr Leyton Cancellor being exceedingly quaint and droll as the stolid Captain Fisher; and a fat sergeant being funnily depicted by Mr A. T. Hendon. The part of Daniels is powerfully interpreted by Mr Bernard Robey, and Miss Dora Rignold is sweet, gentle, and sincere as Edith Vincent, the rôle of the girlish Dora Herrick being brightly rendered by Miss Jessie Burgwitz. Mr Arthur Vezin deserves praise for his very neat realisation of Lieutenant Rex Herrick; and Mr Slaine Mills gives a sound and satisfactory reading of the rôle of Colonel Vincent. Miss Amy Thomas takes full advantage of her brief opportunity as Sal; and each of the minor characters, however subordinate, is handled with admirable care and ability. The scene in the second act, in which a capital military band accompanies Miss Freear in a swinging ditty, and in her delicately melodious rendering of a regimental song to the air of "Auld Robin Gray," is specially effective; and the act-drop has to be raised again and again at this point. *Boy Bob* has been received at the King's with all the enthusiasm deserved by an excellent play, a capital cast, and a leading lady of genius.

MR. GEORGE GROSSMITH'S RECITAL.

At the St. James's Hall last Saturday Mr George Grossmith gave a humorous and musical recital with his customary success, the large hall being well filled in every part. Mr Grossmith began with a dissertation on "Things you must have noticed." No doubt we may have noticed the person and things the humourist referred to, but it needed his droll description to give them zest, while his musical illustrations of being "haunted by Dolly Gray" afforded genuine pleasure when Mr Grossmith introduced the once popular melody into wedding marches and other famous musical pieces. The mixing up "Dolly Gray" with the Wedding March from *Lohengrin* was quite a *tour de force* and evoked hearty applause. The next selection of the recital was "How to Succeed," and this was amusingly illustrated by anecdotes and songs, to say nothing of a laughable method of keeping people out of a railway carriage which Mr Grossmith has successfully tried himself. But the funniest sketch of all was "some instructions how to write a modern musical comedy." Mr Grossmith said when he consulted Mr Pinero that famous dramatist advised him to dispense with a plot altogether as useless and even fatal to the success of a musical comedy. If there was any thread of story to hold the incidents together, said the dramatist, you could take it up at any point and the result would be quite satisfactory, as the audience came in after dinner quite bored and incapable of thinking. The reciter then gave examples of musical comedy all most amusing and scarcely exaggerating the specimens we have actually seen. For example there was a cake-walk, a dance of a duke, a lord, and a millionaire, while the fitful appearance of a military man, the vagaries of the chorus of pretty girls, the eccentric Chinaman, and other musical comedians supplied an ample fund of drollery with vocal illustrations of the most comical description. After a grotesque scene of Mr Grossmith appearing in the cinématograph, a third portion was given, to desire, and consisted of selections from Mr Grossmith's répertoire. There was a comic sketch of old Scotchman playing golf, a scene of Parliamentary squabbling, and other amusing sketches touched with the reciter's peculiar and most acceptable drollery, his racy humour and excellent pianoforte playing being peculiarly successful features

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"EIN UNBESCHRIEBENES BLATT,"
Comedy, in Three Acts by E. Von Wolzogen,
Produced at the Schiller O, June 4.

Dr. Mohl	Herr Rembe
Homann	Herr Rickelt
Curt	Herr Korstlin
Amalie	Fräulein Junger
Gertrud	Fräulein Rosner
Paula	Fräulein Becker
Deggenmeyer	Herr Trautschold
Therese	Fräulein Gundra
Lena	Fräulein Sudars
Dienstmann	Herr Gortze

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

BERLIN, THURSDAY, JUNE 9.—Herr Von Wolzogen is always worth attention, whether it be a play, a novel, or a topical song that is the product of his facile pen. *Ein unbeschriebenes Blatt* is a cleverly-written play of a very light and frothy type, and "farce" would be the better designation for it. "The unwritten page" is the heart of a girl of seventeen, with whom a professor of mathematics, aged forty-two, falls—or believes he falls—in love. The professor fully intended asking the young lady's mother—a charming widow of five-and-thirty — which would have been a far more suitable marriage, but he cannot resist the temptation of writing his own love story on the hitherto unwritten page. All he suffers in consequence we are shown in the second and third acts with much humour. That everything comes right in the end is a matter of course. The cast was the best that has appeared for some time at the Schiller, especially worthy of praise being Fräulein Marie Gundra, Fräulein Becker, and Herr Rembe.

THE Tegernsee company at the Herrnfeld Theatre is doing good business. On Friday last a novelty was produced, making a very favourable impression. It is entitled *Der Musterhof*, a Bavarian volks play, in three acts, by R. Mans. In addition to the usual jodling and zither playing—to which we are accustomed in this type of piece—there is a well-constructed plot, equally well developed. We gain a good idea of the life in a Lower Bavarian village, and the main theme is the contest between the old school and the new, exemplified in the persons of a couple of farmers. The elder man holds to the traditions of his fathers in all things appertaining to agriculture; the younger employs in his house and on his land—the Musterhof—the knowledge and experience he has collected during his studies at the Agricultural High School. The two are sworn foes, the elder man hating all innovations, and the fact that the Musterhof thrives under the new régime while his own farm goes from bad to worse from day to day does not make things any better. Added to this, the Musterhof's master loves the daughter of the unfriendly neighbour, and it takes a long time before matters are made smooth for the lovers. In the long run, however, all comes right, and the moral of the piece is obvious. The acting was very commendable.

THE wildest of farces was produced last week at the Bürgerliches Schauspiel-Haus, under the title of *Die Louwenbraut*. It is by Herr Schätzler-Perasini, and rejoices in five acts of improbabilities too glaring for any attempt at description. The audience appreciated the nonsense, and applauded cordially. The interpretation was capital; with less good acting the piece would hardly have been given twice.

"IM BUNTEN ROCK," the military farce by MM. Von Schönthan and Von Schlicht, which enjoyed such a long run at the Royal Schauspiel-Haus some time ago, has now been acquired by the Berliner Theatre. It was performed for the first time by that company on Saturday at the Theatre des Westens, which has been leased for the summer by MM. Halm and Graul. The piece having been already fully detailed in your columns, it only remains to say a good word for the acting. Herr Kulmert made a capital lieutenant, and the rôle of Mrs Clarkson was very well given by Fräulein Olga Engl, from Hanover Stadt Theatre. Herren Rowland and Schindler played, too, with infinite humour, and Fräulein Roland gave a good account of the military maiden, Betty. All in all, it was a highly satisfactory performance, and *Im Bunten Rock* has certainly started on a new lease of life.

I HEAR from Dresden of the marked success of a new dance-poem by Herr Elsmann, which was produced at the Court Opera House under Royal patronage. The piece is entitled *Grossmutterchen erzahlt*. The scenery and costumes were charming, the dancing refined and skilfully executed, while the music is said to be distinctly original and pleasing.

NOW that the summer heat has fairly set in many of our managers are beginning to think of the vacation. The Royal Opera closes on June 20 with a worthy ending—*Tristan and Isolde*. It reopens on Aug. 20, but the New Royal Opera (Krolls) continues through July.

A PLAY with a moral—the one-act drama *Meinleizter Richter*—was produced with success in Vienna last week, and will be given here shortly. The author is Baron Drechsler, a well-known official in the judicial department of the Austrian administration. The play is intended to convey an admonition to magistrates and judges in general to appeal to the consciences of the prisoners before them. In the plot the convicted man and the judge are confronted in a particularly realistic scene. The judge advises the prisoner to turn over a new leaf for the sake of his innocent child, whose future must suffer for the father's sin. The few well-chosen, heartfelt words made a deep impression on the criminal. He declares had the magistrate who had to pronounce upon his first offence spoken to him thus he would not have sunk step by step as has been the case. The longing awakens in him to lead a good life, but he knows it is now too late, and so for his child's sake he commits suicide. The little drama created profound feeling, and was excellently acted.

THE production of Nestroy's time-worn farce, *Einen Jux will er sich machen*, has proved so successful at the Neues that the management has the intention of reviving two more plays of Nestroy's of the same type—*Zu ebener Erd' und im ersten Stock* and *Der Zerrissene*. It is doubtful, however, whether the novelties will find a place in the bill this side of the holidays.

A POPULAR member of our Royal Opera company, Fräulein Kopka, took leave of the public last week. Fräulein Kopka has been in the company a quarter of a century, and is going to retire into private life with—*nota bene*—something very good in the way of pensions. The lady's voice is naturally not what it once was, but it is still a capable one. The farewell performance was *Figaro's Hochzeit*, and Fräulein Kopka sang the part of Marzelline in excellent style. She was cordially applauded, and held a reception on the stage at the close of the opera.

MESSRS H. AND M. RAYNE, of the theatrical stores, Waterloo-road, desire to advise clients that their telephone number, 987 Hop, has been changed to 7,978 Central.

AT the Empire Palace, Birmingham, this week Miss Marie Loftus has had an enthusiastic reception; as a Scotch comedian W. F. Frame is excellent; the New York Nippers are amusing; a smart acrobatic act is presented by Zaro and Arno; and Mabel La Blanche, comedienne, and Victoria Monks, impersonator, win hearty applause. James Stuart, "the kilted lad at the piano;" Lee and Kingston, in a novel trifly act; Geraldo, club juggler, and Alma Mary, seer, are in the bill.

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—In your current report of *A Trip to Boston* at the Lyceum Theatre, Pentre, you refer to Miss Rosina J. Brestall's company. This should have been Miss Rosina and Mr E. Bristoll's company. Yours faithfully, E. BRISTOLL.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

(SPECIAL TO THE ERA.)

THOSE interested in the Theatrical Sports are again reminded that to-day is the last day for entries, which should be delivered on Monday, when the committee will meet to examine the entries sent in. Those for the best turn-out competition will close on Saturday. Mr George Alexander has consented to act as one of the judges, amongst whom are Mr Harry Venn, Amateur Athletic Association, L.A.C., Mr Frank W Shorland, Mr H. J. Pringle, Mr S. Fredericks, Mr John Harwood, and Mr E. Arnold.

THE preliminary bouts of the wrestling competition will, by kind permission of Mr William Greet, take place on the Adelphi Theatre stage on a day to be arranged with Mr Royce, the stage-manager.

MR LEWIS WALLER has intimated his intention to enter the best turn-out competition for motor cars, and "Percival," of the Empire, will enter that for the best turn-out for horse vehicles.

THE five miles cycling championship shield, presented by Sir Thomas Dewar, M.P., is now on view at the office of the committee. Donations to the prize fund, in addition to those already announced, have been received as follows:—Mr Frederick Harrison, £1 1s.; Mr Cyril Maude, £1 1s.; Mr Henry Arthur Jones, £1 1s.; Mr C Aubrey Smith, £1; Mr Francis Neilson, 10s. 6d.; Mr Gilbert Murray, 10s 6d. Mrs Ellis Fredericks promises a donation of £3 3s.

FULL particulars of the sports may be obtained from the hon. secretary, 29, Wellington-street, Strand. The sports are open to managers, their assistants, actors, and all civilian employees of theatres and music halls in any part of the country.

THE regulation governing the tug-of-war competition for *The Era* Shield is as follows:—Five men to pull catch-weight (one reserve man allowed). The pull to be twelve feet. Three pulls allowed in each round, the best two out of three to constitute a win. The pull must be made standing, members deliberately lying or sitting down will be disqualified. Competitors may wear any kind of boots, ordinary hobnails permitted. Anything of the nature of a spike in a boot will disqualify the team of which the wearer is a member. The boots of each team will be examined before each round.

MUCH regret has been occasioned this week amongst the staff of the Pavilion Theatre, Mile-end, at the somewhat sudden death of Mr George Hyams, who has been a trusted and valued member of the staff for a period of thirty years. He was very popular with his fellow-members, and great sympathy is felt for his sorrowing relatives. The interment took place on Tuesday.

NOTICES and reports of meetings, &c., are invited from the various societies with which stage employees are connected.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

BROOKS.—June 4, Lena, the wife of George Brooks (Bros. Brooks and Sisters Brand), of a lovely girl. Both doing well.

CONROY.—June 7, the wife of Peter Conroy, musical director, of a lovely boy. Both doing well.

PURVIS.—May 25, at Birmingham, the wife of Walter Purvis (Lilly Brammer), of a fine son.

MARRIAGES.

HAMILTON—STAFFORD.—June 7, at Gedling Church, by the Rev. Hon. A. E. Bertie, Grace Eveline, eldest daughter of J. G. Stafford, Netherfield House, Carlton, Nottingham, to Archie Gerald Hamilton, eldest son of William Hamilton, of Hamilton's Excursions.

OSBORNE—ZEDORA.—June 9, at All Saints, Ipswich, by the Rev. E. Austin Smith, Horace S. Osborne to Pansy Zedora, of the Flying Zedoras.

RAYMOND—REID.—June 4, at the Parish Church, Brixton, Matt Raymond to Annie Reid, of Brixton.

ROGERS—CASEY.—June 4, by special licence, Margaret Ada Casey (Belle Harcourt) to Frederick Rogers.

TURNER—SLATTERY.—April 7, at St. Kilda, Victoria, Eardley Turner to Nellie Slattery.

WILLOUGHBY—URE.—June 6, at Christ Church, Bootle, by the Rev. George Raw, M.A., Arthur Willoughby, of Buxton, to Helen Ure, of Bootle.

DEATHS.

ALVA (ST. JOHN-BRENON).—June 2, at 21, Airedale-avenue, Chiswick, Hettie (Madame Alva, lyric artist), wife of Edward St. John-Brenon.

BARTLETT.—June 2, Lucinda Anne Eyes Bartlett, dearly loved mother of J. J. Bartlett. R.I.P.

LAURI.—June 1, at his residence in Camden-town, Charles Lauri, music hall comedian, aged fifty-six.

M'NEILL.—June 5 at 10, Forres-street, Edinburgh, in her seventy-first year, Jessie Henry Ryder, or M'Neill, widow of the late A. D. M'Neill, many years lessee of the Royal Princess's Theatre in that town.

WALTON.—June 4, at 44, Bessborough-street, Pimlico, at the age of twenty-seven, Lottie Walton (Mrs Robinson). Loved by all who knew her.

IN MEMORIAM.

OLIVER.—In loving memory of Florence, the beloved wife of Will Oliver, who departed this life June 13, 1902, aged forty-two. Beloved by all who knew her. Sleep peacefully.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—Sir HENRY IRVING, March 3d, 1898.

Will be of great service.—CHARLES WYNDHAM, March 1st, 1898.

Mr A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era*, March 5th, 1898.

Very useful.—*Sporting Life*, March 4th.

Mr Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News*, March 19th.

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News*, March 11th.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its page, they may avoid much misapprehension and troubles.—*Star*, March 9th.

MR HARRY LEADER, the young Australian author and dramatist, whose successful play *The Bushrangers* was produced a fortnight ago at the Grand Theatre, met with a bad accident the other day. While riding his bicycle in his garden he had a fit, and was thrown off his machine, sustaining a compound fracture of the facial bones. We are pleased to be able to state that he is now progressing satisfactorily.

MISS STROUD WILSON is engaged by Messrs Keith Prowse and Co., to sing at the Victoria Pier concerts, Folkestone, for the week commencing to-morrow (Sunday).

PRESENTATION.—Mr Charles Herrick was presented on Saturday last with a handsome case of mounted pipes by the members of *The Triumph of Truth* company on the conclusion of a long and pleasant tour.

ON THE ROAD, JUNE 13.

ANARCHIST TERROR.—T. R., Sunderland.
ARMADALE REPERTOIRE.—T. R., Bournemouth.
AUSTIN, MARY.—Theatre Royal, Bradford.
SANDMANN-PALMER.—Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
BEAUTIFUL FIEND.—Theatre Royal, Stockton.
BID FOR FORTUNE.—Met. Theatre, Gateshead.
BIGAMY.—Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.
BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH.—Greenwich.
BLACK BISHOP.—Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.
CHRISTIAN.—Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.
CONSCRIPT.—Prince's Theatre, Accrington.
DANDY DOCTOR.—Pier, Eastbourne.
DARK-DEVIL DOROTHY.—T. R., Smethwick.
DISHONOURED.—Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.
D'OYLY CARTE (C).—Opera House, Torquay.
FAITHFUL FRIEND.—King's T., Nottingham.
FIENDS OF LONDON.—Globe Theatre, Deal.
FIGHT FOR LIFE.—Wedgwood T., Burslem.
FRIVOLITY.—County Theatre, Reading.
FROM SCOTLAND YARD.—M. T., Lowestoft.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS.—County T., Kingston.
GREATEST SCOUNDREL LIVING.—St. Helens.
HER FATAL PAST.—P. T., Newcastle.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—T. R., Merthyr.
HIS MAJESTY'S GUESTS (N.).—T. R., Rotherham.
HOT NIGHT.—Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.
I DEFY THE WORLD.—Grand Theatre, Nottingham.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Kilworth Camp.
LADY OF OSTEND.—Aquarium T., Great Yarmouth.
LAUGHTER-LAND.—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
LIFE AT STAKE.—Grand Theatre, Derby.
LIFE'S STORY.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
LITTLE MISS NOBODY.—Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.
LONDON FIREMAN.—Avenue Theatre, Kettering.
MAN TO MAN.—Prince's Theatre, Bradford.
MANXMAN.—Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.
MARRIAGE OF VENGEANCE.—T. R., Darlington.
MASTER CRIMINAL.—Grand Theatre, Cardiff.
MOCKERY OF MARRIAGE.—Grand Theatre, Bolton.
NEW HOUSEMAID.—Opera House, Harrogate.
OTTO THE OUTCAST.—P. O. W. T., Mexborough.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Buxton.
ROYAL DIVORCE (KELLY) (N.).—Nuneaton.
ROYAL DIVORCE (KELLY) (S.).—Woolwich.
SAVED FROM THE SEA.—K. T., Cardiff.
SCARLET WOMAN.—Grand Theatre, Hull.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—Empire T., Oldham.
SINS OF A CITY.—Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
SNUG LITTLE KINGDOM.—Grand T., Blackpool.
STILL ALARM.—Grand Theatre, Margate.
STOLEN BIRTHRIGHT.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
TOM, DICK, AND HARRY.—G. T., Middlesbrough.
TRAITOR.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
TRAITOR PRINCE.—Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.
TRIP TO CHINATOWN.—Yeovil.
TRIUMPH OF TRUTH.—Theatre Royal, Scarborough.
TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS.—Standard Theatre, E.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—Marlborough T., N.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (HARRINGTON).—Hanley.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (TULLY).—Broughton.
WARNER, GRACE.—Opera House, Leicester.
WHAT A WOMAN DID.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
WHITEWASHING JULIA.—New Theatre, Oxford.
WHY WOMAN SINS.—Ealing Theatre, W.
WOMAN OF PLEASURE.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
WORLD'S DESIRE.—Opera House, Coventry.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
ZAZA.—Theatre Royal, Aldershot.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Royalty Theatre, Barrow.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at any of Smith and Sons' bookstalls throughout the provinces.

"THE TRIPPERS; or, Capers at the Coast.'

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

After the Whitevale Theatre, Glasgow, having been closed for about three weeks, making elaborate preparations for the summer season, Mr George Green reopened the house on Saturday. Pantomimes are generally associated with the conditions that prevail in the depth of winter, but there seems no valid reason why the public should not enjoy a similar class of entertainment in the "good old summer time." Mr Fred Locke's experience as a pantomime librettist during the past twenty-five years has proved of good stead in the writing of the book, and though short the new summer pantomime, *The Trippers*, which was produced here on Saturday, is full of lively dialogue and crisp hits at things in general. The three scenes represent the Broomielaw, Glasgow, Rothesay Bay, and the Hotel Pomme de Terre. The first two scenes are, of course, local, but the clever scenic artist, Mr Edmund A. Swift, has allowed himself considerable licence in the working out of the pictures.

The company engaged are all well suited. Mr Charles Majilton as Adolphus Noodle keeps the fun going briskly all through, and his facility in disguise is ingeniously made use of. Miss Maddie Majilton is a handsome and lively principal boy as Prince Paragon, and her various songs, either alone or in conjunction with the sprightly Polly (Miss Madge Brownie), go well. The latter is a clever dancer, and with her sister, Miss Vesta Brownie, who plays Pauline, the maid, shares the honour in the dancing line. Mr Herbert Ashmore as the cross-grained old Professor Pimpleton ably helps the fun; Mr Dickie Clare as Billy, the boy-in-buttons, is another clever comedian, and has several smart songs, being responsible in addition for the stage-management; Mr Sam Thomson as a henpecked Scotchman and Mr Sam Kelly as his shrewish Irish wife, Norah, introduce a lot of lively business; Misses Laura and Clare Lorraine are two tantalising trippers, who score well both in song and dance; Miss C. Foy as Maud, the bonnie banished barmaid, is a handsome and striking member of the company, and ably assists the comedians in their "mashing the barmaid" business. The dresses are all new, bright, and attractive, and a lively overture and incidental music, including all the latest popular ditties, have been arranged by Mr J. H. Carmichael, the conductor of the orchestra here. The first performance went particularly well, and *The Trippers* promises to provide lots of amusement for the visitors to Mr Green's popular resort this summer.

SONG TITLES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In to-day's *Era* I notice a paragraph relating to a song entitled "On a cold and frosty morning." In 1898 I wrote a song with this particular title for Mr Charles Pastor, which was purchased for publication by Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter on Jan. 28, 1899.

Yours faithfully, FRANK LEO.
1, South-place, Kennington-park, London, S.E.
June 4.

AT the Gaiety Theatre, Birmingham, this week Cruickshank is keenly appreciated; Park's Eaton Boys have a good reception; Belloni's cockatoos show careful training; the Olympian Stars, dancers and vocalists, do an excellent turn; Tennyson and Wallis, comedians, and Gus Garrick, in the novel act, "All Smiles," add to the mirth the Sisters Devona are clever aerial artistes; Alice Mabel and Nellie Young render their songs and dances happily; and a series of animated pictures are also shown.

MR CHARLES HARTLEY will revive Tom Taylor's comedy, *Still Waters Run Deep*, at the Crystal Palace Theatre on the 20th inst.

THE Southport Pavilion, Winter Gardens, and Opera House were offered for sale by public auction on Wednesday afternoon. The first bid was £55,000, which advanced to £71,000, at which figure the property was withdrawn by order of the secretary to the Court of Chancery. On a former occasion in 1902 when the property was put for auction the sum of £94,000 was offered and refused.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 9.)

RUGBY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Rugby Theatre and Entertainments Co., Limited; Managing-Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Kingsley.—This week Miss Ada Wallis's company is appearing with the musical absurdity *The Major*. Miss Ada Wallis as Angelina Touchemup is excellent. Mr J. W. Groves as Jeremiah Stoney also contributes in no small degree to the success, and Mr Frank Hartley as George Goodman is very good. Mr T. C. M'Quire as Major Barney O'Neall gives a carefully studied rendering, and Mr George Chatterton as Thomas Twickham is excellent. Miss Connie Irwin is charming as Grace Gampney; Miss Minnie M'Quire as Hilda Marston leaves nothing to be desired; Miss Alice Williams as Miss Emma Gampney is good; and Mr G. Whitey as Mr Ezekiah Stoney makes the most of his opportunities.

RUNCORN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr H. W. Caddick.—Messrs Cane and Osborne's company is here in *The Master of the Chain*. The chief centre of attraction is Valoise De Riche, the Master of the Chain, a forceful character, faithfully undertaken by Mr J. W. Carson; Mr Cecil Ravenswood is equally good in his dual rôle of Maurice De Chant and the Marquis Leon De Cheleraux; Ralf Legend is a capital embodiment by Mr Leonard Montgomery; and Mr Willie Vernon is very much to the fore as Octavius Splinters. Miss Eulin Hielburg is to be highly commended for a sympathetic rendering of the persecuted Madaline Trevor, Miss Edith Le Ray makes a vivacious Dorothy Bains, and Miss Beryl Ravenswood as Lena De Menza presents a realistic study.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—Messrs George Harris and Fred S. Jennings' company presented on Monday the naval drama *Why Woman Sins*. Captain Herbert Carlton, the cause of all the mischief, is in the able hands of Mr Fred Terriss, who receives much assistance from Ida Valette, a woman with a past, impressively portrayed by Miss Mildred Cottell. Mr Roy Fortescue ably sustains the character of the manly Lieut. Harry Maxwell; and with charming grace Miss Winifred Preece presents Lily De Vere. Miss Hilda Merrilees also makes a charming Nell Desmond. Mr G. Harris as Cecil Spencer, Mr Lionel Ellis as Jim Rainbird, Mr A. Lenton as Sam Spavins, Mr Tom Grisdale as Tom Potts, Mr Cecil Churton as Capt. Algie, Miss Marie West as Nancy Nibble, and Miss Susanne Kippaire as Nanette furnish plenty of comedy. Miss G. Thomas as Jack Smith, a waif, makes a good impression. The staging is well done.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Jacques Inaudi, the lightning mathematical calculator, gives one of many most acceptable turns. The feats of strength and equilibrium of Mons. Henri are well received. Kioto is a wonderful Japanese acrobat. Jack Pleasants has some very droll songs. The Ladderites have a clever exhibition. *Mashing the Barmaid* is a comic sketch presented by the Three Zaracs, who are clever acrobats. Maude Needham, ballad vocalist; Elsie Rubina, wire-walker and dancer; the Lizzette Troupe of four lady acrobats and tumblers; Downes and Langford, eccentric comedians and dancers; and the animated pictures also come in for their share of applause.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead.—A very good programme is provided here this week, headed by Tom Davies's Trio of cyclists, who give a good performance of whirling the whirl, or cycling in mid-air. Valvero is an expert artist who paints with lightning rapidity, and gives his sensational novelty of a naval bombardment. The Royal Korries are clever and amusing in their original pot-pourri act. Percy Maye cleverly acts, dances, and sings in female character. The other items are provided by Kurtz, in his juggling act; J. C. Morris, quaint comedian and patterer; Lynn, the singing newsboy; Merton and Rydon, speciality duettists and dancers; Wallis and Walton, comedy act; and the Cinizelli Troupe, eccentric comedy acrobats; concluding with the Hippodrome animated pictures.

L. AND N.W. PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietress, Mrs S. A. Higham; Manager, Mr Sam Higham.—The reputation of this comfortable lounge is well sustained by the entertainment provided this week, including Mr Harry Scott, comedian; Miss Pattie Transfield, burlesque actress; Miss Vesta Stevens, lady baritone; and Miss Lav Loftus, comedienne.

SHEERNESS.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr T. G. Transfield; Secretary and Manager, Mr Chas. Melvin.—A capital bill-of-fare is submitted here for this week, and is headed by Charles Matthews, the human kangaroo, in a series of clever jumping feats. The Sylvester Brothers, comedy acrobats, are well received, and Fielding and Hull also appear with success in the farce *An Officer's Flirtation*. The Itrams, gymnastic artistes, are much admired, and Harland and Rollinson, musical eccentrics, also score. A welcome addition to the programme is the return of Rabbit, the popular agouste of last season, who, with Little Bishop, is very amusing. Other acceptable turns include George Foyle, descriptive comedian, and Miss Ethel Loftus, burlesque actress, the performance concluding with the Bio-Tableaux.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont.—A welcome and enjoyable performance of *In the Ranks* was given on Monday by the company organised for the tour of the famous Adelphi drama by Messrs Arthur Carlton and H. Armitage. The well-known mechanical changes, which were quite a revelation twenty years ago, were well handled by the Lyceum staff, and the acting was good all round. Mr Stanley Bedwell admirably brought out the fine qualities of the dashing hero, Ned Drayton. Ruth was represented with true womanly feeling by Miss E. Blair-Staples. The comedy relief was safe in the hands of Mr Cecil Clayton as Joe Buzzard and Miss A. Beaumont as Mrs Buzzard. The arch-villain, Gideon Blake, found a good representative in Mr Charles H. Lester, and other well-played rôles were the Capt. Holcroft of Mr Archie W. Chappell, the Barbara Herrick of Miss Ella Wilmer, and the Richard Belton of Mr Walter Beaumont.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Ramsay.—The sensational drama, *The Grip of the Law*, is again being played here by Messrs Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls's company. Mr E. D. Nicholls is still the mirth-provoking representative of Zeph Sorrell, a character conceived on quite unconventional lines. That well-known local favourite, Mr John Clyde, gives a striking impersonation of Dave Arkwright; Mr Herbert Evelyn makes a picturesque and manly Noel o' the Night; and Mr Courtnay Robinson depicts in bold colours the vile characteristics of the Jonathan Wild-like Captain Paul. Miss Ada Frank as Beulah Bliss and Mr Willie Black as Andy Blunt provide some screaming comedy scenes; Miss Ruth Shepherd is good as Rose; and other parts are cleverly played by Miss Olive Parker, Miss Ada Lucelle, and other capable artistes. The piece is excellently staged.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Alan W. Young.—Harry Lauder, the popular Caledonian comique, is starring this week, and other artistes of note are Barton and Ashley, in their sketch *Canal boat Sol*; Maud Venn, comedienne; Hill and Whittaker, in their banjo speciality; George Barron, eccentric comedian; Miss Ray Wallace, lady mimic; Dion Wade, quaint singer of funny songs; Little Fred and his trained dogs; the Henry Taylor Trio, equilibrists; the Barowsky Trio, comic gymnasts; R. W. Bentley, vocal comedian; and the favourite American comedy artiste Happy Fanny Fields.

GRAND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr W. C. Burns.—The company here includes Mr J. K. Reynolds and other dramatic artistes in a thrilling sketch called *Conscience;* Merco, a clever young illusionist; Nellie Lovell, male impersonator and burlesque actress; Percy Hannon, vocalist; Edna Cragge, serio-comic vocalist; and the Seebolds, in their refined musical entertainment.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee and Manager, Mr Fred Mouillot; Resident Manager, Mr Sydney Paxton.—This week Mr Mouillot's comedy company is appearing here in *Caste*. The longevity of Robertson's charming comedy is primarily due, no doubt, to Eccles, and Mr Fred Grove as the gin-loving old reprobate keeps the audience in a continual roar of laughter. Mrs Mouillot as Polly Eccles is bright and vivacious, and wins golden opinions. Sam Gerridge is well depicted by Mr Welton Dale, and Miss Alice Belmore as the Marquise De St. Maur is excellent. Miss Kathleen Russell acts in a convincing manner as Esther Eccles, and Mr Rawson Buckley capably plays the part of Hon. George D'Alroy. Mr Cooper Cliffe is a capital Captain Hawtree, and Mr Lawrence Grove does all that is required as Dixon. *Caste* is followed each evening by the one-act drama *The Queen's Messenger*, in which Mrs Mouillot as the masked lady and Mr Cooper Cliffe as the messenger do admirable work.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs J. W. Gordon; Acting-Manager, Mr Dudley Colwyn.—Mr Stanley Hope's company is appearing in *The Master Criminal*, which is very successful. The company is a capital one, and the singing and acting of Stedman's London Choir of juveniles form a special feature of the production.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; Manager, Mr Chas. Marte.—An attractive programme has been arranged for the present week. Amongst the artistes are the Two Bees, who come in for a full share of applause for their popular scena *Hiawatha*. Ben Albert is, as usual, delightfully droll; and Charles Coverdale, who makes his first appearance, scores a huge success with his remarkably fresh and original patter and novel imitations. Lady Mansel and her juveniles prosper well, and the Hoopers, hoop spinners, &c., and the Trapnell Family, acrobats, submit clever turns. The company also includes Read and Wright, Paul Vandy, and Flo Elvin.

PIER PAVILION.—This popular resort is being well patronised, and on Wednesday, when the fine string band of the Royal Garrison Artillery, under the direction of Mr George Miller, L.R.A.M., played two excellent selections of music, large audiences assembled and thoroughly enjoyed the programmes submitted.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Sole Owners, the Empire Theatre Co., Limited; Managing-Director, Mr W. Marlow.—Mr Haddon Chambers' comedy entitled *The Tyranny of Tears*, is being presented here in capital style this week. Clement Parbury is well expounded by Mr Harold V. Neilson, Mr W. Lemmon Warde takes the rôle of George Gunning creditably, Captain Gerald Gambier is well suited as Colonel Armitage, Mr George Franklin as the servant Evans is good, Miss May Saker is praiseworthy as Hyacinth Woodward, the secretary; and Miss Amy Sangster well portrays Mrs Parbury.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr Cecil De Gue is presenting his exciting melodrama, in five acts, entitled *What Men Call Love*, here this week. Mr Cecil De Gue takes the rôle of Ralph Trevanian creditably, Stephen Lyle finds a capable exponent in Mr William Porter, Mr Arthur E. Andrews and Miss Elder as Tom Chummy and the servant are pleasing, Mr L. Thornton is deserving of mention as Joe Barton, Hiram Henry finds an amusing representative in Mr Ernest C. Edwards. Miss Gertrude Fitzpatrick as Little Ruth wins admiration, Miss Ethel Gordon gives a good impersonation of Muriel, and Miss Laura Walker portrays excellently Lola Trevanian.

KURSAAL.—General Manager, Colonel Blair Staples.—One of the chief attractions here this week is Cirnocs, whose performances with handcuffs and locks are marvellous; Dollie Denton, the dainty Southend belle, sings and dances prettily; Harry Gifford contributes some excellent humorous songs; the Lupino Brothers occupy a conspicuous position in the bill with *The Musician and Poodle;* Clarence Arthur, the quaint comedian; and Minnie Newman are also acquisitions; Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope is showing some new pictures. In the café chantant are the Do Mi Sol Do Bianchi Trio, Madame Gloria Marconis, and Mr Bianchi. The menagerie, plentifully stocked with well cared-for animals, is a great attraction.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—General Manager, Mr Alfred Hemming.—Mr Charles Stone's company is here this week in the American farcical comedy *What Became of Mrs Rackett*. The principal characters are all well represented, prominent amongst them being Miss Edith Madelle in the part of Mrs Rackett, Miss Emily Kelsey as Mrs Tolman, and Miss Daisy Stone, who gave a piquant and dainty rendering of Katy, the maid, Mr Harry Herbert (Robert Rackett), Mr Jack Haines (Timothy Tolman), Mr S. Junior (Hobson), and Mr F. Hayward (Obadiah Dawson).

STALYBRIDGE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident Manager, Mr H. Leighton Rooke.—The Osmond-Tearle répertoire company, under the direction of Mr Herbert J. Montague, is appearing in a round of legitimate plays including *Othello, Hamlet, As You Like It, Lady of Lyons, Richard III.*, and *The Merchant of Venice*. Mr Alexander Marsh and Miss Carrie Baillie undertake the leading rôles in each performance, and are supported by an excellent company.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr M'Leod Loader.—Mr G. E. V. Russell's company is providing a most acceptable programme with the musical comedy, *The Girl from Corsica*. Mr Victor Stevens as the valet, Sam Spindle, is highly amusing, and during the time he occupies the stage the laughter is never allowed to flag. As Maimoun Mr Leicester Tunks is admirable. Mr Cyril Harcourt displays ability as Alexis, and the Henri of Mr Louis Stanislaus is a clever performance. Mr Archie Selwyn proves a capable Lord Poole, and Augustus Devereux has a capital exponent in Mr Arthur Linton. Miss Nellie Grant is excellent as Lusania, and her vocal efforts are highly appreciated. Miss Connie Leon gives a chic representation of Lily White. Miss Beatrice Poole is eminently successful as Muriel, and Miss Maude Gwynne is well suited as Lady Deborah. The dressing and staging are commendable. Mr S. R. Squires is business-manager for the company.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. V. Carnell.—Heading the bill here this week is Captain Alfonso Gerard, with his performing lions and tiger dogs. Witty Watty Walton, comedian, is loudly applauded. Other excellent turns are contributed by the Sisters Volbecque, duettists; Miss Alice Golding, comedienne; the Ottoway Trio, in a musical act; Onda and Artell, acrobats; and Barnard's Royal Mannikins.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—Messrs J. A. Campbell and G. Fulton's No. 1 company in *A Bid for Fortune*, a romantic costume play of George III. period, greatly pleased Monday's audience here. Mr George Child appears in the double part of Sir Milton Netherley, a miserly old thief, and that of the upright gentleman, Desmond Netherley, with ability. Mr Richard Fulton is a ideal villain as the swaggering Kent Hickett. Mr Arthur Mervyn admirably plays Sir Philip Templemere. Another praiseworthy delineation is the Mullard of Mr Arthur Trail. Mr Dick Thomas has a keen sense of humour as Cobb Cuttle; and Mr Chas. H. Williams does well as Nat Goodberry. Miss Olive Fulton stands out prominently with a charmingly artistic portrayal of Agnes Netherley; Barbara is gracefully and tenderly handled by Miss Rosa Mervyn; Little Florrie acquits herself creditably as Little Eric; and comedy is further helped by Miss Jenny Bostock's garrulous Widow Nicholls.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—Frank and Albert Boissett and troupe are here with *The Evening Party*, which is well received with roars of laughter; F. W. Millis, who has a prominent position in the bill, is a successful ventriloquist; the Northern Troupe of international dancers show becoming grace and neatness; Willie Haigh, the singing pit boy of Hunslet, receives loud applause; a bright comedy sketch, entitled *Mary and the Squire*, is submitted by Fanny and Harry Dent; the eccentricities of Lawrence Barclay score heavily; and other appreciated turns are furnished by Flo D'Orville, comedienne; Will Mitcham, musical comedian; and Maud Ross, a smart dancer.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr Jos. Sweeney; Manager, Mr Geo. S. Douglass.—Mr Ralph Pringle, of the North American Animated Photo. Company, places another capital programme before the patrons of this popular place of amusement. First comes Brady and Johnson's company (second week) in their laughable sketch *A Chapter of Blunders*; the Henderson and Stanley Quartet are popular in a musical and comic gymnastic performance; the impersonations of Walter Graham are well received; and the animated pictures are again a leading attraction.

SEASIDE PAVILION. — Proprietors, the South Shields Corporation.—Mr W. Catlin and his pierrots are affording excellent entertainment for holiday-makers. There is a good deal of versatility in the performances, and the artistes enter into their work with spirit. The company includes Messrs. W. Catlin, George Dix, Charles Arnett, Edwin Wilkins, Clifford Allen, Robert Hall, and H. C. Lovell, who is also general manager.

STOCKPORT.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. Revill.—Mr Harry Esden's company is presenting Mr E Hill-Mitchelson's drama *Rogues and Vagabonds* here this week to appreciative audiences. Mr John C. Carlyle as Harry Stamford, an artist, acts with pleasing effect, and Mr Bernard Liell is a capable Fernand Delair, a gentleman thief. As Nathan Baxter and John Lamb, escaped convicts, Mr John Cullen and Mr Edward Swinton are amusing, whilst Mr Frank Denis makes an excellent Police-constable Clegg. Miss Georgette Thierry impersonates the character of Vera Laverne with delightful ease and grace, and Hilda Jeffries has a sympathetic representative in Miss Hettie Senior. Ben, a homeless lad, is cleverly portrayed by Miss Marjory Armstrong, and Miss Katherine Vere fills the part of Sarah Tilley with ability.

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr P. Collins; Manager, Mr Frank Egerton.—This new venture of Mr P. Collins continues its successful course. This week the star turn is Alec Hurley and company in *The Lambeth Walk*, which is greatly enjoyed. Prince Fee Lung as a conjuror and balancer has but few rivals; Bert Woodward, the coon cyclist, is both novel and clever; Violet Macfarlane is a juvenile artiste of much ability; Danby and Danby are eccentric comedians of a high order; Kitty Neville is a vivacious comedienne; Rowland Hill amuses his audiences with his funny songs and patter; and Collins's animated pictures are excellent.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee and Manager, Mr Fredk. Mouillot; Resident Manager, Mr Frank Boyce.—Mr W. W. Kelly's company is again with us in *A Royal Divorce*. The Napoleon of Mr George W. Cockburn was remarkably good, and he was ably supported by Miss Agnes Imlay as Josephine. Miss Ethyle Murray, Marie Louise; Mr William Dexter, Tallyrand; Mr Frank Stone, Marquis De Beaumont; Mr Walter T. Clifford, General Augereau; and Miss Beatrice Webb, Stephanie, are important members of a long cast.

NEW STAR.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—The attraction at this house during the week has been *East Lynne*, played by Mr Ernest R. Abbott and his company, which includes Miss Ada Abbott and the popular comedian Mr Edwin Keene.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Mitchell.—The very enjoyable programme presented to the patrons of this house during the week includes the following:—Little Tich, as popular as ever; Lew Wells, a clever eccentric musical comedian; Burns and Evans, a pair of capital comedians; Slade Murray, a capable actor-vocalist and comedian; Alexandre and Bertie, in a clever trapeze performance; Chas. F. Best, an exceedingly funny man; Georgina Leonard, burlesque actress; Frank Lynne, "the funnymatograph;" and Vasco, "the mad musician."

SWINDON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr Claude Jullion.—Local lovers of good music are revelling in a week of grand opera, provided by the Elster grand opera company. On Monday a very pleasing rendering of *Maritana* was enjoyed by a large and appreciative audience. This popular and tuneful work was nearly staged, under the direction of Mr Geo. Cooke. The title-rôle showed Miss Marie Elster at her best, and provided this talented artiste with excellent opportunities in acting and singing, which evoked many hearty outbursts of applause. Mr F. Hargrave as Don Cæsar rendered the numbers allotted to the part admirably, his fine voice being heard to great advantage. Miss Theresa Gilbert, an old Swindon favourite, brought her experience to bear and gave a thoroughly sound performance as Lazarillo, and Mr Michael Kemble did well as Don José. The part of the King of Spain was successfully entrusted to Mr G. Partridge, and Mr M. Simmons and Miss Madge Quilliam did all that was possible with the Marquis and Marchioness respectively. One very striking feature was the excellence of the evenly balanced chorus and augmented orchestra, under the bâton of Mr Charles Bye. On Tuesday a meritorius rendering of *The Daughter of the Regiment* was given, and Miss Marie Elster delighted another good audience with her charming vocal abilities in the part of Marie. Mr F. Hargrave's Tony was a performance of the highest merit, and was highly appreciated. Mr Gilbert King was remarkably prominent as Sergeant Sulpice, and Mr Michael Kemble as the Corporal worked assiduously. Miss Madge Quilliam and Miss Nellie Russell were also successful in their respective parts. During the week *The Bohemian Girl* and *Faust* were also presented.

(Continued on Page 20.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. WILLIAMS.—*(1)* Hunted to Death; or, Crime and It's Reward. *Cast:—Jean Phillipe Deshays, Mr Howard Russell; Leonard, Mr E Fitzdavies; Latouche, Mr Lewis Nanton; Ambrose, Mr G P. Jaques; Gaspard Enclune, Mr J. H Doyne; Brigadier Renaud, Mr Carter; William Buddle, Mr F Hart; Eloise, Miss Neville; Madame Defaur, Mrs J H Doyne; Jeanette, Miss Pauline Burette (2)* The Man and the Spirit. *Cast:—Darby Delaney, Mr J. Reynolds; Patrick Murray, Mr E Newbound; Mr William Winkle, Mr J B. Howe; Neal Malone, Mr H Evans; Phil Carroll, Mr T Hyde; Corney the Piper, Mr T Hermann; Sergeant Rowland, Mr Johnson; Kate Delaney, Miss B Adams.*

MRS H.—*When It's Never Too Late to Mend* was revived at Drury-lane Theatre, on April 11th, 1891, Mr Charles Warner appeared as Tom Robinson, Mr Henry Loraine as Isaac Levi, Mr Mark Quinton as the Rev. Mr Eden, Mr Harry Fisher as Jacky, Mr Edmund Gurney as George Fielding, Miss Jessie Millward as Susan Merton, and Miss Kate Maccabe as Josepha.

J. BRIGHT AND PAT (Wakefield).—*There are two gentlemen of the name you mention; the elder has been dead some years. You might obtain the information you require by writing to Mr T. Holmes, variety agent, Cranbourne-street, Leicester-square, London, enclosing a stamped envelope.*

BILLIE CINT.—*As we make it a rule not to give the ages of members of the profession we are unable to oblige you.*

JNO. SMITH.—*About a dozen years ago. We do not know the exact date.*

J. WILKINS.—Called Back *(adapted from the novel by Comyns Carr) was first produced at the Prince's (now the Prince of Wales's), May 20 1894. Several dramatisations of the story were produced in the provinces.*

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars admitted to this List.

Aboo-Saleh, Mr F.
Adair, Mrs Frank
Agoust, Mr
Allelson, Mr Tom
Andertons and Rowlands
Arnold, Mr Sidney
Arnold, Miss T. M.
Asche, Mr Oscar
Austin, Mr R.
Austin and Cowan
Bailey, Mr John
Bale, Mr E. G.
Barker (Clown)
Barnett's Marionettes
Bedford, Mr E. A.
Bendon, Mr P.
Bentley, Mrs Walter
Borders, Mr J. B.
Bowser, Mr Arthur
Bowyer, Mr Fred
Bramich, Miss F.
Brearley, Mrs
Brickwell, Mr H. T.
Browne, Miss B.
Bunce, Mr Thomas
Bunston, Mr Herbert
Burdett, Mr Frank
Burgoyne, Mr A.
Burnett, Prof.
Butler, Mr C. J.
Butt, Miss Bessie
Calvert, Miss L
Campbell, Miss Ethel
Carola, Mr A.
Carroll, Miss Kitty
Casson, Mr Frank
Chapender, Mr Martin
Cherry, Mr F.
Clark, Miss Dorothy
Clark, Mr J. Coats
Clayton, Mr Wm.
Clifton, Miss Lottie
Clys, Mr H.
Collard, Mdlle.
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Howard, Mr Walter
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Johnston, Mr Keino
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Kader, Mr Abdel
Kayes, Mr William
Kelly-Robinson, Mr
Kendal, Mr and Mrs
Kimberley, Mr F. G.
King, Mr Charles
Kley, Madame
Knowles, Mr R. G.
Lafayette, The Great
Laing, Mr Percy
Laplace, Mr George
Lee, Miss Jennie
Le Grande, The Chevalier
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Lennol, Mr J
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Lorenzo, Signor
Lovel, Mr Leigh
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Murray, Mr Louis
Myles, Mr Teddy
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Nimse, Herr
Noel, Miss Cossie
Noel, Miss Maude
North, Miss Lillie
Oban, Mr Tom F.
Oldenbuck, Mr A.
Onda, Brothers
Patherson, Mr J.
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Plumpton, Mrs Ernest
Polini, Mrs H.
Pollard, Mr Fred
Poynton, Mr Alfred
Presano, Mr Paul
Prior, Mr James
Rapley, Mr George
Raymond, Mr Stanley
Richard, Mrs A.
Richardson, Miss Nell
Roby, Mr W. L.
Rochelle, Mr Ed.
Rochery, Madame
Rowley, Miss Ada
Rupert, Signor
Rutland, Mr Cecil
Samuels, Mrs W.
Sanoy, Mr R. V.
Saunderson, Mr
Sealby, Mr Walter
Seeley, Mr W. R.
Selby, Mr Alf
Sidney, Musical
Silvo, Mr B.
Skelton, Mr Arthur
Snowden, Mr Frank
Snyder, Mr B.
Staley & Birbeck, Messrs
St. Clair, Mrs G.
Stewart, Mr Bert
Stewart, Mr Otto
Storey, Mr F.
Stringer, Mr Mark
Sykes, Mr G. W.
Talbot, Mr Howard
Tempest, Miss Marie
Temple, Miss Madge
Temple, Mr Fred
Templeton, Miss D.
Thomas, Mr Brandon
Thomas, Mr Dan
Thornton, Mr Frank
Tosti, Miss Olga
Travis, Mr Carl
Vasco
Venus, Miss S.
Vincent, Mr Leonard
Vint, Mr Leon
Vyner, Mr Leslie
Walner, Miss Cassie
Webster, Mr Ben
Weston, Miss Nora
Weston, Mr Fred
Wheeler, Miss L.
Wheeler, Mrs F. B.
Wheeler, Mr Frank
Whelan, Mr Michael
Wylie, Mr Lauri
Yoricks, The
Zalvar, Mr Chas.
Zento Troupe

AT the Empire Theatre, Maidenhead, Mr E. Ball and Mr Lionel Hastings took a complimentary benefit on Monday. Musical selections were performed by the local town band, boxing competitions for a gold medal and a challenge cup were contested, and Mr Millar Anderson's company appeared in *The Broken Honeymoon* and *The Other Charlie*.

PRESENTATIONS.—A pleasant surprise awaited Mr A. D. Willcox, the popular conductor of the Dewsbury Hippodrome orchestra, by the presentation on Friday, the 3rd inst., of a massive gold medal from several admirers in the district, as a recognition of his energetic efforts in connection with several charitable objects. The Hanging Heaton Orchestral Band, as a mark of esteem, also presented him with a splendid ebony and silver-mounted bâton. Mr H. D. Riley, the leader of the Hippodrome orchestra, was also the recipient of a gold medal.

MR EDITOR. — Sir, — Your Hebburn correspondent, in his recent notice of Mr W. A. Jackson's benefit at the Theatre Royal, omitted the name of my wife, Miss Nellie Elliene, and also that of, yours faithfully, N. C. BOSTOCK. Central, North Shields.

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THEATRICAL, MUSICAL, AND
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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
The veteran J. L. Toole has a good story in "The
Era" Annual (49, Wellington-street, Strand) a publication
which is highly valued by all who have anything to do
with the stage. He says:—I was once playing in
"Dearer than Life" with Irving and Billington at Leeds.
After the performance several gentlemen were in the
general room of the hotel where we were staying, and
among them a certain Mr Jones, who professed to have a
large acquaintance in the profession, and who appeared
to have a local reputation as a judge of ages.
"Well, how old," said someone, "would you take Mr
Toole to be?"
"Well," said he, "sixty-five, if he's a day."
"Do you know him?" I asked.
"Oh, yes; I know him very well indeed."
"Ah! and how old should you take me to be?"
"Well, I should take you to be forty, if you're a day."
Irving asked Mr Jones if he didn't think Mr Toole
was nearer seventy-five than sixty-five. "No," he said;
"sixty-five, if he's a day," and the company present
seemed to put it down that that would be my age. They
had most of them been to the theatre and seen
me—for the first time probably—playing an old man;
and as it was my first visit to the town, and we
were going on by the mail train that night, I had I
fancy not to go away and leave them under the
impression that I was this very old gentleman. a
found that Jones was a decent sort of fellow, and I said
to Irving that before I went I should just give him my
card and let him know what a mistake he had made. By
and bye, when our cab arrived, we said good-night to our
casual acquaintances, and, taking Mr Jones aside, I
handed him my card, whereupon he said "Oh, indeed!"
in a very offensive manner, turned upon his heel, and
walked away.
"Well," I said to my friends as we drove away, "that's
the most impertinent fellow I think I ever met." Where-
upon Billington and Irving went into fits of laughter, and
confessed that they had warned Mr Jones that I was con-
tinually passing myself off as Toole, and he was to be
quite prepared for my handing him a card and trying the
imposition upon him.—Leeds and Yorkshire Mercury,
Friday, Jan. 22d, 1904.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
"The Era" Annual, 1904, contains, as usual, many
items and statistics of use and interest to all connected
with the stage, and, in addition, a number of sketches
and short stories by leading artistes, managers, and
others. Among the contributors are J. L. Toole, Dan
Leno, George R. Sims, George Robey, Huntley Wright,
Harry Randall, Bransby Williams, A. W. Pinero, Louie
Freear, Little Tich, George Mozart, and Douglas
Crichton. The publication is cheap at a shilling.—
Birmingham Daily Gazette, Jan. 16th, 1904

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
"The Era" Annual, 1904, reappears with all the fea-
tures that to metropolitan and provincial playgoers
make it invaluable as a work of reference. It again con-
tains a list of new plays and important revivals at the
London and suburban theatres, with dates of production
to the end of November; new plays submitted in the
provinces; the theatrical, musical, and equestrian obitu-
ary for the year; and other stage matters concerning
which information is often desired. Each branch is excel-
lently classified. What may, for convenience sake, be
termed the "useful" portions of the "Annual" are sand-
wiched by forty short stories by popular actors and
entertainers, the interest of these contributions being
increased by autographs and portraits.—Daily Chronicle,
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THE ERA
SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1904.

THE DEARTH OF PLAYS.

The above title, to a certain extent, "begs the question." Sir HENRY IRVING, in his admirable speech at the Manchester Arts Club on the 1st inst., more accurately alluded to the subject as the "*alleged* dearth of plays." There can, indeed, be little doubt that the supply of good actors and actresses is greater than that of pieces calculated to evoke their fullest capabilities; and that, as a rule, we see the artist greater than his part. But the number of interesting original plays by new writers is increasing yearly; and we have no cause to fear for the future

Amongst the causes of play famine may be reckoned the attitude of some managers in the past towards all aspiring authors; and the influence of destructive criticism. We may compare the relations between managers and authors with that between mistresses and domestic servants. There was a time, we are told, when you could get a hard-working female menial for £12 a-year. Now the common wage is £20. There was a period, too, when servants would put up with a great deal rather than "lose their places." Nowadays, the mistresses have to seek humbly for servants at registry offices, and have to indulge them in every possible way—indeed, the employer very often goes in terror of offending the employee.

The up-to-date mistress accepts the situation, and acts accordingly. She goes energetically and uncomplainingly to work till she secures a suitable servant; she pays the modern high wages; and she is careful not to insult or ill-treat her valued servitor. The mistress who is in trouble is the one in the transition state, who has not moved with the times, and still acts as if things were as they once were. It is she who complains of the "dearth of servants."

It is a question not so much of actual deeds as of a changed attitude of mind. Now, the attitude of mind of the manager of the last generation towards the young dramatist of the same period was certainly not encouraging. This attitude was created by the unfailing supply of French pieces suitable for adaptation; and also by the fact that writing for the stage paid better than journalism or "literature." Conditions have changed; the other day an American journalist gave his readers the result of his experience as a journalist and as a playwright. He was quite successful in the latter capacity; but when he reckoned up what he had earned in fees taking failures with successes, over a period of five years, he found that he had made more at his old calling; and he consequently resumed it. The old system was extremely simple. If a manager wanted an original play—he very seldom was reduced to this—he went to one of the few recognised "play-makers" and ordered a drama as he would a pair of trousers. What happened to the aspiring dramatist in those days was this:—He sent in his play. He wrote about it and received no answer; finally he asked to have it returned; and, after a good deal of trouble, he got it. That was all.

Long runs also engendered the attitude of mind to which we have referred. It seems as if the days of these long runs—except, of course, in the case of musical plays—were over. Small profits and quick changes appear to be the "breakers ahead;" but there is no reason why, if the cost of productions be moderate money should not be made on these lines. But the altered conditions demand an attitude like that of Mr CHARLES FROHMAN, who, as Sir HENRY said in his speech, "searches the highways and byways of Britain and America for new plays." This is quite unlike the attitude of the manager of the last generation towards aspiring authors. The entrepreneur of that period might more fitly have been described as hurrying up a byway whenever he saw a dramatist with a possible MS. in his pocket coming up the highway. Fortunately, most of our modern managers are realising the conditions we have sketched. The fact that the Poet Laureate could send in a piece, anonymously, to Mr ARTHUR BOURCHIER, and have it read and accepted, shows that the old, lazy, discourteous, unenterprising methods are being abandoned by all our rising managers.

We must deal briefly with the second cause of the dearth. The history of naval construction is that of a contest between the inventors of armour and the makers of big guns. There are periods when the guns simply "smother" the plates; and modern personal criticism is "smothering" playwriting. As soon as a writer is identified with his notices, he becomes a public performer, and, by the very conditions of his case, is bound in some way or other to attract notice. Or he may be a *raffiné*, as suited to the task of treating of the average play as GOLDSMITH'S politician who "cut blocks with a razor." In either instance his criticism is *destructive*. Sooner than belaud the obviously excellent he will damn it with scant praise; sooner than go with the herd he will discover beauties in esoteric dramatic art which, when put to the test of stage representation, fizzles out and subsides. Above all, the personal theatrical criticism of the day is *blasé*. It is in the state of Faust before his transformation—tired of all things, and knowing too much. A distinguished French physician recently professed to have invented a method of making old folks young. He obtained an infusion of parts of the bodies of juvenile guinea-pigs; and this fluid, passed into the veins of exhausted Parisian epicures restored to them the feelings of youth. It is a pity that we cannot inject essence of young cavy into our modern dramatic criticism. And entirely in harmony with it is the tone of the stalls at many premières. The original failures of so many plays which have afterwards blossomed into successes can be accounted for on the supposition that, in nine cases out of ten, the first-nighters in the stalls do not share the tastes and feelings of the ordinary paying patrons of that part of the house. What with destructive cleverness in critics and jaded apathy in first-night stallites, authors are so afraid of being simple that they become cheaply cynical, and are so fearful of force being sneeringly smiled at that they dare not "let themselves go."

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT-GARDEN.

Tannhauser was performed at Covent-garden last Saturday, but Mdlle. Ternina was still suffering from cold, and her place was taken by Frau Egli, who gave an excellent rendering of Elizabeth, singing the music with infinite grace and charm and acting expressively. As Venus Frau Reinl acquitted herself most efficiently. Herr Van Dyck appeared as the hero, but was not in good voice, and sang with considerable effort. But his acting was extremely good, and so impressed the audience that he was frequently recalled. Mr Hinckley, an American basso, who has been singing at the Dresden opera, represented the Landgrave with success, and Herr Van Rooy was seen as Woltram, one of his best parts. Fräulein Alten as the shepherd sang well, and the other parts were efficiently sustained. Dr. Richter conducted with his customary care. To-night Madame Melba will appear as Marguerite in Gounod's *Faust*. M. Plançon being the Mephistopheles. Fräulein Ternina is not likely to be seen again this season, and the German series of operas will end with the departure of Dr. Richter.

Not for many years do we remember so successful a first appearance as that of Mdlle. Selma Kurz, from the Grand Opera, Vienna, in *Rigoletto*, on Tuesday. Mdlle. Kurz will be a great acquisition to the Royal Opera. The impression she made was immediate and profound, and no sooner had she delivered the charming "Caro Nome" than there was a perfectly overwhelming demand for a repetition, which Mdlle. Kurz found impossible to refuse. She is undoubtedly a vocalist of the first class. Her shake is brilliant in the extreme, and not only her vocal gifts but her power as an actress was most impressive. Her Gilda is no simple, wayward girl, falling an easy prey to the libertine Duke, but Mdlle. Kurz revealed a true tragic note in her acting that almost reached a new reading of the part of the jester's hapless daughter. Her future career at Covent-garden will be eagerly anticipated. In all respects the representation of *Rigoletto* was a good one. Signor Caruso as the Duke surpassed himself, and the enthusiasm reminded us of old operatic days when mellow tenors carried all before them. Signor Caruso was compelled to repeat the graceful "La Donna e Mobile," and the ease and freedom of his singing evoked constant expressions of delight from the enraptured house. M. Renaud appeared as the Jester, and was supremely excellent, while M. Journet made a capital representative of Sparafucile. Madame Kirkby Lunn was eminently satisfactory as Maddalena, and the smaller parts were efficiently sustained. Signor Caruso appears on Monday next in Verdi's *Aida*, an opera that should suit him admirably. The Ramfis of M. Plançon and the Amonasro of Signor Scotti will also be powerful features in the strong cast.

Fräulein Plaichinger, from the Berlin Opera, made her first appearance at Covent-garden on Thursday in Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde* with considerable success. The fact that she chose such an exacting character for her début was a proof of her experience and confidence in her powers. Her voice is powerful rather than sweet, but within its range there are some rich and expressive tones, and of these Fräulein Plaichinger made the most, her Isolde having also the merit of being admirably acted. Her first appearance was therefore a decided success. M. Van Dyck is far from being an ideal Tristan vocally, but in the acting he was extremely powerful and expressive. Herr Hinckley was good as König Marke, Herr Schütz effective as Kurwenal, and Madame Kirkby Lunn made an excellent Brangane, her by-play in the scene where the poison is exchanged for the love potion being first-rate. Dr. Richter conducted, and we need hardly say the orchestra was efficient.

AT the Hippodrome, Birmingham, the Brothers Luck are making a good impression by their quaint mannerisms and general eccentricities in their absurdity *The Hotel Grande*. Marguerite Broadfoote has had an affectionate welcome; Nellie Vonare is a graceful and expert contortionist; Morny Cash, Bob Hutt, and Fred Curran, comedians, evoke hearty laughter; La and Do, Parisian street singers; Hettie King, mimic; Rex Fox, wire artist; Musical Sylvo; and the Goldina Trio, contribute to the strong programme.

PRESENTATION.—On Saturday, at the Shelbourne Hotel, Dublin, a number of citizens made a presentation to Mr Charles Hyland, the popular manager of the local Gaiety Theatre, on the occasion of his completing twenty-five years' connection with that place of amusement. The gifts were an address, a large silver salver, and a purse of sovereigns. The chair was taken by Sir Lambert H. Ormsby, President of the College of Surgeons, who made the presentation, which Mr Charles Hyland suitably acknowledged.

"GOOD WOMEN AND BAD."

A Story of the Diplomatic Service.
A Drama in Four Acts, by Wilfred H. Benson,
Produced at the Theatre Royal, Dover,
on Monday, June 6.

Admiral Winter, R.N.	Mr ALFRED LESTER
Lieut. Jack Winter, R.N.	Mr GEORGE BUTT
Captain Desmond O'Neal	Mr FREDERICK ROSS
Count Leon De Vurton	Mr HERBERT HOLLISTER
Edgar Trevor	Mr CLAUD AYMOND
Dan Fergus	Mr L. WRIGHT
Mrs Nugget	Miss BELLE POWER
Private Tommy Nugget	Mr JACK M'KENZIE
Bob Matey	Mr F. K. NELSON
Inspector Jones	Mr J. WILLING
Mack Nemo	Mr R. C SMITH
Swordsman X	Mr MURPHY
Executioner	Mr LANGSHEAR
Defender of the Gate	Mr REED
Lena Granville	Miss GWYNNE STEWART
Lily Denton	Miss DORIS DEW
Nancy Nuggett	Miss MILDRED EVERSLEIGH
Maud Jones	Miss E. WRIGHT
Dulcie Smith	Miss M. MACKENZIE
Mary Ann De Vere	Miss M. COMPTON
Adie Tremayne	Miss JEANNIE BURGOYNE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Written with originality and power, and steering clear of the wildly improbable, Mr Wilfred Benson's new play should prove an instantaneous success wherever produced. The scenery and the general mounting of the piece are excellent in a high degree, and none of those unavoidable waits or hitches, trying alike to both audience and performers, occurred on the opening night.

The story deals with quite a new theme—the Diplomatic Secret Service, and chiefly concerns the adventures of a young diplomatist, Captain Desmond O'Neal. Some valuable information concerning the British defences has leaked out, and suspicion has fallen on Count Leon De Vurton, who is a guest of Admiral Winter, but nothing can be proved against him. Captain O'Neal is deputed to obtain information, and, if possible, have the spy arrested. Jack Winter comes home on leave, and is warmly welcomed by Lily Denton, his father's ward, who has loved him all her life. The Admiral has for many years been engaged in writing articles and drawing plans of the coast defences of Great Britain and Ireland, and Edgar Trevor, an accomplice of De Vurton's, to divert suspicion, insinuates to the Admiral that his son Jack, who is kept rather short of money, is desirous of obtaining these plans and selling them to some foreign power. The Count, who is only awaiting a favourable opportunity to steal the MSS., has been promised help by Jack's fiancée, Adie Tremayne, an adventuress of the worst type. Her father, a Corsican, was executed for the murder of a British sailor in Corsica, and on hearing that the Admiral was the official who signed his death warrant, Adie is possessed with a craving for vengeance, and promises to assist the Count to ruin father and son. Lena Granville, a poor girl whom the Count has betrayed, appears upon the scene, and begs him to marry her, but only gets laughs and sneers for answer. Driven to despair, she throws herself in the river. An attempt at rescue is made by Captain O'Neal, and a murderous attack on both by Leon and Adie, but they are finally rescued by Bob Matey, an A B. home on leave.

The second act opens in the Winters' drawing-room. Lena has not yet recovered from the shock of the her immersion, but has turned out to be the missing heiress to over a million pounds, and, strangest of all, Adie's half-sister. O'Neal is in love with Lena, but will not tell her so on account of her wealth. The Admiral persuades his son to break off his engagement to Adie, and Jack departs for London. The Count makes a last desperate attempt to secure the plans, is interrupted by the Admiral, who in the struggle that follows is killed. The murderer and Adie escape.

Six months elapse. Leon and Adie have not been heard of since the night of the murder. Jack is engaged to his old playmate Lily. The lovely old rose garden in this scene is an ideal spot for the introduction of a charmingly realistic love scene between Lena and Desmond. The next scene describes the recovery of the papers by Captain O'Neal and the arrest of Trevor and his tool Dan Fergus.

Act four opens with Piccadilly at night. O'Neal learns that Trevor has escaped from prison, Fergus being shot in the attempt. The Count and Adie meet, and their arrangements to kidnap Jack and Lena are successfully carried out. Trevor turns King's evidence, and puts O'Neal on the track. The last scene is perhaps the most sensational and improbable, but certainly the most effective of the whole play. It is the Interior of the All Nations (an Anarchist) Club. A duel is fought between Trevor and the Count, by order of the Queen (Adie), the men being masked and therefore unrecognisable. O'Neal takes Trevor's place and kills the Count. The masks are thrown off, and Adie finds her mistake. She calls for vengeance, but the room is surrounded by Desmond's men. She is mad at the betrayal of the club secrets, and having discovered Trevor to be the traitor, fires her revolver and kills him. He presents his at the same time, and she sinks back upon the throne—dead.

The skilful touches which show the master-hand are always apparent in Mr Fredk. Ross's impersonations, but never more so than in his rendering of the typical Irish gentleman, Desmond O'Neal. The part is one which is well suited to him, but which in the hands of a less capable actor would probably be ineffective. Mr George Butt is manly and energetic, and makes a decided hit as Jack Winter; Count Leon de Vurton is played with all the brilliancy and power which we have learnt to associate with the name of Mr Herbert Hollister; Mr Claud Aymond is thoroughly efficient as Edgar Trevor, and plays without the least exaggeration or over-emphasis; Mr Alfred Lester gives a meritorious portrayal of Admiral Winter; and Mr L. Wright as Dan Fergus is convincing and effective. The rôle of Adie Tremayne does not suit Miss Jeannie Burgoyne so well as the light comedy parts in which she excels, but her impersonation never lacks power or becomes anything but interesting. Miss Gwynne Stewart is pathetic as Lena Granville, and soon wins the sympathy of the audience. One of the most pleasing performances is that of Miss Doris Dew, whose daintiness and charm is revealed in the part of Lily Denton. The inevitable servant is played brightly and well by Miss Mildred Eversleigh, who is assisted in comedy by Messrs E. K. Nelson and Jack M'Kenzie, who work hard and acquit themselves admirably. The minor characters are all well played, and considerably help the success of the production.

THE Great Eastern Railway are going very much ahead. They have arranged a very much more attractive service of trains to the watering places on the east coast, notably to Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft. The trains will run from London to these places in the smart time of two and a half hours. Besides the natural beauties of these seaside places the entertainment attractions are enormous, and managers, artistes, and performers of all kinds will welcome this up-to-date enterprise of the Great Eastern.

IN our last issue, by a regrettable error, the following "Birth" announcement was inserted amongst the "Deaths":—

PURVIS.—May 25, at Birmingham, the wife of Walter Purvis (Lilly Brammer), of a fine son.

We regret any annoyance which may have been caused to Mr and Mrs Walter Purvis by the misplacement of this announcement.

PRESENTATION.—Miss Marie Auckland was presented by the ladies and gentlemen of *The Triumph of Truth* company on Saturday with a silver trinket set on the occasion of the end of the first tour of the piece.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS

"LA DIVINE EMILIE."
Comedy, in Two Acts, by M. Lucien Glaize,
Produced at the Odéon, June 2.

Voltaire	M. GEMIER
Marquis du Chatelet	M. COSTE
Kelt	M. DARRAS
Clairaut	M. E. VIOLET
Saint Lambert	M. REVEL
Marquise du Chatelet	Mdlle. MARCILLY
Madame de Champbonin	Mdlle. KESLY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, JUNE 9.—The Odéon management, under the impression that in the hot weather short plays are more easily digested than long ones, has served us up four little pieces, of which *La Divine Emilie* is decidedly the best. Voltaire—the great Voltaire—is a guest at the country house of his friends, the Marquis and Marquise du Chatelet, the latter—la divine Emilie—young and handsome, with a craving for learning and an equal craving for handsome men. Voltaire cannot lay claim to beauty, but he is witty and clever, and the Marquise has bestowed her favours upon him. When the story opens his happiness has come to an end, for the fickle lady has transferred her love to the young astronomer Clairaut, and we see poor Voltaire suffering the pangs of jealousy. In truth, Voltaire, despite his reputation, shows himself anything but a philosopher, a term which can be more fitly applied to the Marquis, who is considerably older than his flightly wife. The poor Marquis is resigned to his fate; and when the irascible and venomous Voltaire tries to rouse him to action, the old gentleman wrings his aristocratic shoulders, and, with a melancholy smile, says: "I know it all, my good friend, she deceives us both!" But Voltaire has been called to Berlin by his royal admirer, Frederick the Great. He remains ten years at the German Court, and, having quarrelled with the King, returns to his friends in the country, where he hears to his joy that Clairaut, his former rival, has left. Unfortunately, this joy does not last long, for Saint-Lambert, a dashing young officer, has taken Clairaut's place. The meeting between Voltaire and Saint-Lambert is curious. The first would willingly sacrifice his glory if he could be young once more; and the latter would gladly exchange his youth against fame. The only true philosopher is the old Marquis, who remains resigned to his fate. M. Gemier gave an admirable impersonation of the querulous Voltaire; M. Coste threw the necessary humour into the rôle of the Marquis; and Mdlle. Marcilly was a bewitching Marquise.

"LE DEMON DU FOYER."
Comedy, in Two Acts, by Georges Sand,
Produced at the Odéon, June 2.

Le Prince	M. BURGUET
Le Maestro	M. JANVIER
Le Marquis	M. GASTON SEVERIN
Camille	Mdlle. MAILLE
Flora	Mdlle. DE RAISY
Nina	Madame DESVERGERS

It seems strange that the Odéon should have unearthed this meaningless, old-fashioned play by Georges Sand, which has never ranked among her best productions. It was an unlucky selection. Flora, a youg actress, is jealous of the fame of her sister Camille, a celebrated prima-donna, and she elopes with a nobleman who has promised her a brilliant engagement in Naples. She is saved in the nick of time from the clutches of this individual by a noble-hearted and handsome marquis, in love with Camille, who rewards him by marrying him. Flora, the little demon, repents her escapade; and everything ends happily in this silly, sentimental play, which was, however, capitally acted.

"LA CAGE," the third piece, is more a vaudeville than a comedy. It is the story of a man whom his wife overdoses with love. Her affection well-nigh chokes him, and drives him in despair into the arms of a newly-found mistress. It so happens, however, that this mistress is the replica of his wife. She, too, is overflowing with love; and the distracted husband, having discovered his mistake, returns definitely to the conjugal embrace.

"LA TRAHISON," the curtain-raiser which preceded the before-mentioned three plays, is an unpretentious trifle. A young divorced woman has married a man who, she knows, will never deceive her. She is nevertheless suspicious, and looking over her husband's pocket-book finds a letter, the handwriting of which makes her start. And then the truth leaks out. Her husband has met several times in a café a gentleman, a bibliomaniac like himself. They have been discussing books on several occasions, and it is only quite accidentally that he discovered that the affable stranger was his predecessor, his wife's first spouse. And the curtain drops before we know to what result this strange friendship will lead.

AFTER Sunday next M. Coquelin will not appear in the rôle of Cyrano. His place will be taken by M. Candé. The rest of the cast, however, will remain unchanged.

AT the Théâtre Cluny *Les Blackboulés* and *M. La Pudeur* will be withdrawn to make room for M. Gaston Marot's new play *Le Rabiot*.

M. CATULLE MENDÈS is putting the finishing touches to the libretto of *Ariane*, for which M. Massenet will write the music. The work will be produced at the Opera.

AT the annual meeting of the Association de Secours Mutuels des Artistes Dramatiques the dreaded word "Trust" was not uttered. Everyone was eager to have the question discussed, but nobody had the pluck to broach the subject. The proceedings consequently were very tame. M. Coquelin *ainé* was unanimously re-elected president for the ensuing year. It was stated in the report that the Home for Aged Actors was ready, and that M. Bouyer had been elected director. Nearly sufficient funds had been subscribed, M. Coquelin *ainé* contributing 10,000f. from his own pocket.

THE list of new plays which M. Antoine intends to produce during the season 1904-1905 is an interesting one. The list comprises:—*King Lear*, translated by MM. Pierre Loti and De Vedel; *Camarades*, five acts, by M. A. Aderer; *Les Esclaves*, five acts, by Henry Bernstein; *La Chanoinesse*, five acts, by M. Henri Céard; *Le Miracle de St. Antoine*, two acts, by M. Bruyerre; *La Main du Singe*, three tableaux, by Mr. Parker, the French translation by M. Robert Nunès; *La Première de Bébé Rose*, one act, by M. Georges Feydeau; *Charlotte*, four acts, by M. Jean Thorel; *Aisle de Nuit*, one act, by M. Max Maurey; *L'Hiver*, three acts, by M. Réné Peter; *Les Experts*, one act, by M. Louis Bénière; *Le Meilleur Parti*, four acts, by M. Maurice Maindron; *La Faute de l'Abbé Mouret*, five acts, founded on Emile Zola's novel, music by Alfred Bruneau; *Des Lèvres au Cœur*, five acts, by M. Leon Gandillot; *Vieil Heidelberg*, five acts, by Mr W. M. Forster, translated by MM. Remon and W. Bauer; *Discipline*, two acts, by M. Couring; *La Maison des Juges*, four acts, by M. G. Leroux; *La Pitié*, three acts, by M. Maurice Leblanc; *L'Abîme*, two acts, by Madame Berthe Reynold; *L'Amourette*, four acts, by M. Pierre Véber; *Monsieur Jean*, one act, by M. G. Nanteuil; *L'Enfant Gâté* three acts, by M. André De Lorde; *L'Auberge*, three acts, by M. Georges Henriot.

THE Théâtre Déjazet has given us a parody of MM. Donnay and Descaves' fine play, *Oiseaux de Passage*. The author, M. Matrat, has called his work *Oiseaux pas Sages*. It is a poor production, and not written on the lines of a parody. M. Guyon, however, was excellent in the rôle of Gagarief, and M. Hasti and Mdlle. Marsay worked hard against heavy odds.

THE staff of the Theatre Royal, Bradford, had their annual outing on Sunday. Blackpool was the rendezvous. The day was gloriously fine, and, conducted by Mr James Richardson (Mr John Hart's able lieutenant and acting-manager), the company enjoyed themselves immensely.

"THE SADDUCEE AND THE SINNER."

An Original Play, in Four Acts, by Cyril Hallward,
Produced at the Kennington Theatre,
on Monday, June 6.

The Hon. John Heysham	Mr SCOTT BUIST
Viscount Ravensthorpe	Mr CHARLES SUGDEN
Reginald Heysham	Mr ATHOL STEWART
Richard Ovenden	Mr C. M. LOWNE
Newby	Mr W. F. K LANCY
The Rev. Clement Tutbury Tydd	Mr GILBERT LAYE
William	Mr CECIL RUTLAND
Lady Ravensthorpe	Miss EVELYN STUART
Gwendolen Heysham	Miss MARY LESLIE
Priscilla Holt	Miss KATE SERJEANTSON
Marjorie Gainford	Miss OLIVE BASHFORD
Mary	Miss BERYL HOLLAND
Dolly Mayfield	Miss WINIFRED FRASER

Mr Cyril Hallward, though not entirely inexperienced as a playwright, has written no such important piece as *The Sadducee and the Sinner*, which was produced at the Kennington Theatre on Monday with undoubted success, a numerous audience following the play with great attention from first to last. Though the construction is somewhat loose in places, the story is effectively told, the characters are mostly well drawn and interesting, and there is much brightness in the dialogue. The author can easily remedy the diffuseness; and may see his way to reducing the four acts to three. The "sinner" is of the frailer sex. Her name is Dolly Mayfield, a little chorus girl, and she has lived with the Hon. John Heysham for a couple of years. At the opening of the story in that gentleman's rooms in South Audley-street we learn that the liaison is at an end, and in a letter from Dolly to "Jack" she announces her approaching marriage, the name of the bridegroom being kept back. Jack soon learns it from his younger brother, Reginald, who expresses his determination to marry Dolly in spite of the gossip concerning her reputation. Jack talks like a father to the generous, impulsive youth, and points out to him the impossibility of such a marriage without in any way revealing any of Dolly's past. Eventually Dolly herself arrives—at an awkward moment too—when Lord Ravensthorpe, the peppery father of the brothers, is interviewing them both. Dolly, who does not look a bit like it, is passed off as a young person who has come to see Jack's aunt at his rooms for the purpose of being engaged as a lady's maid. The fib is not quite ingenious enough to deceive the old gentleman, who has his "doots," Left alone with Dolly, Jack prevails upon her to promise to give up her project of marrying Reggy. The arrival of Aunt Priscilla Holt and Marjorie Gainford, Jack's cousin, necessitates the retirement of the little sinner to the bathroom, where the water has been left running. Dolly cannot turn off the tap, and has to be released. The situation is too awkward and embarrassing for Jack to explain away, and the curtain falls on an excellent first act. In the second Jack is at home looking after his father's estate, and there is a prospect of a county election, for which a Mr Richard Ovenden is standing in the Union interest. A fancy bazaar has been organised by the local clergyman, the Rev. Clement Tutbury Tydd, who has induced some ladies of the stage to take stalls. Among them is Dolly, who is recognised by Lord Ravensthorpe as the pert young woman he has seen in Jack's chambers in the first act. His lordship is both fussy and indignant, and Ovenden, who has heard the story, repeats it in the hearing of Marjorie Gainwood for the purpose of prejudicing Jack in the eyes of Marjorie, who, though she returns Jack's affection, is somewhat estranged in consequence of the episode of the first act. Through the good offices of Aunt Priscilla, the two young people fall into each other's arms. But Ovenden is not so easily baffled in his scheming, and when Reginald turns up in a state of indignation to have it out with Jack because Dolly has thrown him over, Ovenden informs him of the liaison. There is a stormy interview between the brothers, and the curtain falls on a good situation. In the third act we find that Marjorie has engaged herself to Ovenden, whose past is exposed by Dolly because that honest-hearted little woman will not see Jack misunderstood and wronged. It was Ovenden who had ruined Dolly, and then when the connection became embarrassing, the callous libertine had endeavoured to settle the matter by a cheque. Ovenden gets his congé, and Jack and Reggie go off to South Africa. After two years' absence Jack returns, and has serious thoughts of marrying Dolly; but she has been married meanwhile, and the way is cleared for his union with Marjorie.

The company entrusted with the representation of the piece did yeoman service for the author on Monday. Mr Scott Buist as the ultra-chivalrous hero played with gentlemanly self-restraint and commendable ease. Jack is not given to heroics, and the modesty and self-effacement of the man are exactly what one would expect in a blue-blooded hero whose ideals of life rise above hypocritical conventions and self-seeking. Mr Buist tackled the difficult situation at the conclusion of the second act with discretion and judgment, and the success of the first act was largely due to his buoyancy and brightness. Miss Winifred Fraser played very finely indeed as Dolly Mayfield, and scored a great triumph in the third act, where the little chorus girl makes a full confession of her past to Marjorie and exposes the callousness and brutal heartlessness of Richard Ovenden. Dolly's better nature is ever asserting itself throughout the play, and one feels that, though in the half-world, she is not of it. Her lovable nature was made very apparent by the clever young actress, who completely won the hearts of her audience. Mr C. M. Lowne as Richard Ovenden toned down most effectively the caddishness of that character, the suave manner and irritating coolness being just in the right vein; and the picture of the easy-going scoundrel was a finished one. Mr Charles Sugden made a decided hit as Viscount Ravensthorpe, the testy but kind-hearted old peer. The make-up was admirable, and the interview of the father with his boys in the first act was carried through with great spirit and humour. Mr Athol Stewart as the quixotic youth Reginald Heysham had some excellent moments, and quite rose to the situation at the end of the second act, where Reggy learns of the relations between his elder brother and the woman he loves. Miss Kate Sergeantson was an adorable Aunt Priscilla, the good angel of the play. The actress realised to the full the good-nature and kindliness of the part, and became a great favourite. Miss Olive Bashford played with girlish freshness and charm the rôle of Marjorie Gainford, and was genuinely interesting throughout the play. She was particularly charming in her love scene of the second act. Mr Gilbert Laye contrived to give a touch of character to the Rev. Clement Tutbury Tydd; Miss Mary Leslie was an agreeable Gwendolen Heysham; and Mr W. F. K. Lancy submitted a clever study of Newby. Mr Cecil Rutland and Miss Beryl Holland completed the cast.

THE National Trades Exhibition, held annually at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, and which closed on Saturday last, has, it appears, attracted no less than 600,000 visitors since March 24, and has been the means of £231 being handed over, through Mr George Stanley, the zealous and kindly manager, to the local Queen's Hospital. This is £1 more than last year, the hospital having during the last six years benefited from this source to the amount of £1,600.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief [illegible] the use of Brown's Bronchial Troches. People [illegible], are with a hacking cough, a slight cold, or bronchial [illegible] cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if [illegible]; to progress, result in serious pulmonary and asth[illegible] affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronc[illegible] Troches" are on the Government stamp arou[illegible] each [illegible] Sold by Chemists everywhere, 1s. 1½d. per Bo[illegible]

MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

THE sketch question, it is hoped, will now be discussed fully in Parliament, for on Thursday Captain Jessel, member for South St Pancras, introduced a bill, which was read the first time, "to amend the law relating to public entertainment." The measure is based upon the recommendations of the Select Committee, presided over by Lord Plunkett, which investigated the subject in 1892.

THE action brought by the Music Hall Sketch Artistes' Protection Association against Mr George Edwardes and the Empire directorate concerning the ballet *High Jinks* was to have been heard at Marlborough-street on Friday, but has once again been postponed, and is now down for Friday next. Possibly it will not trouble the magistrate further, as the prospects of a settlement seem to be more favourable than they have been for some time past. No agreement between the Theatrical Managers' Association and the leading representatives of music halls has yet been signed, but as the details in dispute between them are of no great importance to either there should be no difficulty in arriving at a satisfactory solution.

ANY compromise, however, will be regarded only as a temporary palliation of the evil caused by a most lamentable dispute, and though the Bill promoted by the London Entertainments Protection Association has only a very remote chance of being placed on the statute book this year, the matter will not be allowed to drop. The chief clause in the measure runs as follows:—"That in that class of music halls above referred to as theatres of varieties it be made lawful, without the possession of a licence for stage plays, publicly to present ballet, ballet divertissement, or ballet of action, and those performances commonly called sketches, if the duration of each such performance shall not exceed forty minutes and no more than six principal performers take part therein, and if there shall be an interval of at least thirty minutes between any two such sketches, and no two sketches performed on the same evening at such places of public entertainment shall have a connected plot."

THE Musical Copyright Association sends us particulars of the latest seizure—under a magistrate's order—of pirated music, the same constituting the largest on record, namely, 152 350 copies and thirty-seven sets of process blocks. Later, on Thursday, the agents of the Association seized in Holborn fifty thousand more copies, and twelve sets of blocks. This information will probably be of interest in view of the fact that the next stage of the Musical Copyright Bill was first in the list for Friday.

THESE enormous and unprecedented captures, coming as they did in the same week when the matter was again before the House of Commons, cannot but take the heart out of the vendors of the trashy stuff, and the difficulties attending their obtaining fresh supplies are bound to make them look out for less questionable methods of obtaining a livelihood. The coffin of the song pirate is nearly finished, and the last few nails are being driven home, and driven home well.

MISS VESTA TILLEY, after a triumphal tour in the States, made her rentrée to the London variety boards on Monday, and both at the Oxford and Tivoli had a very warm welcome at the hands of large audiences. We cannot say anything new about Miss Tilley's "boys." They are unimpeachable and inimitable; and this was again discovered in her new sketch of "The Flannelled Fool"—not the gentleman satirised by Rudyard Kipling, but a young counter-jumper given to tall talk about his yacht and visits to Monte Carlo. The "London Idol" treats this kind of character with the happiest possible effect, and her immaculate flannel suit should be extensively copied by the young men of fashion who desire to wear the correct thing in seaside costumes. Another song is written round that proverbially wise bird "the owl," and is of a topical complexion. It is already a great success, and as it readily lends itself to encore verses its popularity is not likely to be ephemeral.

MR DAN LENO also returned to the London Pavilion on Monday, when he was heartily acclaimed by his numerous admirers. He appeared to be very pleased with his reception, and repeated the success of his popular selections, "Going to the Races" and "The House Buyer." The funny patter in both these numbers kept the house in roars of laughter.

MR ARTHUR ROBERTS has accepted the presidency of the Pal Club, and has consented to open the season's debates, on the 16th inst., with an address on "The Ethics of Bohemianism." The popular comedian proposes to deal seriously with his subject, and will divide it into two sections—the Bohemianism of the past and the Bohemianism of to-day. Mr Herman Finck has been appointed hon. treasurer of the club, and the duties of hon. secretary will be carried out by Mr R. A. Northcott, the well-known journalist and critic.

THE Camberwell Palace, which is run on such excellent lines by Mr Jesse Sparrow, has made profits during its last financial year to the tune of £6 085. A dividend of 8 per cent. and a bonus of 2 per cent. will absorb £2 149, and it is proposed to add £250 to the reserve fund for repairs and renewals, bringing up the amount to the credit of that fund to £750. The balance of £3,685 will be carried forward to the current year.

MR EMANUEL WARNER, popularly known as "Manny," has just come back from America, where he has been touring in search of first-class acts for this country. Mr Warner, who has visited the St. Louis Exhibition during his travels, has also secured contracts for many prominent English artistes at the leading vaudeville houses in the States.

MR JOHNNY DANVERS, late the leading comedian of the Mohawk and Moore and Burgess Minstrels, finds that his services are much in request at the halls of smoke and song, where first-class comedians must always be at a premium. In the near future we shall see the popular corner-man at the London Pavilion and other prominent West-end variety establishments.

WE are given to understand that Mr Jesse Williams will shortly resign his position as musical director. He has the unique record of holding the same position twice in his career; at an inteval, too, of nearly thirty years, for he was chef d'orchestre at the Canterbury in the days of Bill Holland in 1869-70. Mr Williams at one time was musical chief to the Christy Minstrels, and set to music some of their most popular ballads.

THE dramatic and musical scena entitled *The Little Colonel*, which was recently tried so successfully at the London and the Granville, will be placed on the regular bill next week at Collins's by Mr Jack De Freece. Mr Ernest Montefiore, Miss Belle Valpy, and little Angela Hope will again be responsible for its representation.

MISS KATE CARNEY, who held another "'Liza Johnson" singing competition on Friday at the Canterbury, has just acquired a fine chorus song by Medley Barrett and Harry Bedford called "Rose of [illegible] Garden," and yet another ditty by the [illegible] writer entitled "Granny."

MISS RACHEL LOWE produced on Monday at the London Pavilion a new song entitled "The Lucky Duck." The comedienne had a live duck on the stage, and scored a big success. The song is published by Witmark and Son

MR JAMES CHAPPELL will commence his season at Great Yarmouth on Monday with a grand concert company of first-class artistes, and a feature of the three daily entertainments will be laughable sketches. The company includes Marie Braham, Sisters Le Graham, Lottie Mellor, Millie Howell, Mdlle. Melita, the Donnells, E. D'Almaine, Pat Carey, Wright and Aitken, Garford, Patsy Lloyd, Sulli and Saroni and Miss Frances, Fred Riley, Le Barr and Sequar, Alf. Oldham, Moneta and Ford, Dorothy Alexander, Maud Marlow, Ivey Love, Alice Dora, the Two Rubies, Bernard and Weston, J. H. Crew, Mitzi, Daley and Collins, Dan Conway, Ward and Wylie, Four Arizonas and Will Percival, Leslie Reed, Levano, Steve Cooke, and Mr and Mrs Herbert Cole.

ELABORATE and extensive alterations are now being rapidly pushed forward at the Armoury, Huddersfield, Mr William Robinson sparing no expense in transforming it into one of the most beautiful variety theatres in the provinces. It will be known as the New Hippodrome, and will be able to seat comfortably over 3,000 persons. Mr W. H. Cowper, the architect, anticipates that it will be ready for opening in September.

THE first meeting of creditors was held on Monday at the offices of the Official Receiver, Manchester, in the matter of Albert Henry Hengler, circus proprietor, who formerly carried on business at the Hengler's Circus, in Wellington-street and Waterloo-street, Glasgow, and now at the Hengler's Circus, Great Bridgwater-street, Manchester, and at Curzon Hall, Birmingham. A statement of affairs has been filed, showing gross liabilities amounting to £8 507 8s. 6d. The estate shows a surplus of £94 9s. 9d. It was resolved that the debtor should be adjudged bankrupt, and Mr John Townley Trotter, chartered accountant of Manchester, was appointed trustee.

THE Scarborough Hippodrome is closed for two weeks for painting and cleaning, but Mr Quinton Gibson will open it again on June 20. He has also taken a lease of the Pier and Pavilion, Scarborough, which he will open on Monday. Mr Gibson is now performing at the Grand Theatre, Doncaster, with his own company.

A PROSPECTUS is in circulation inviting applications for £1 shares in the Grand Theatre and Opera House, Croydon, which it is proposed to turn into a variety house. The capital is fixed at £40,000. Croydon already has a well-conducted music hall in the Palace, which is worked in conjunction with the Granville, Walham-green; the Grand, Clapham; and the Camberwell Palace.

ON Saturday afternoon the Winter Gardens at Great Yarmouth were opened to the public. The new building, originally erected at Torquay, stands near the Wellington Pier, and is a large structure of iron and glass, 170ft. long and 60ft. wide, increased to 85ft. at the transepts. Its height is 40ft., and the square tower over the transepts is 70ft. high. The floor is of Australian hard wood on concrete, and round the building a continuous bed has been left for flowers. The building has a hot-water installation for heating purposes, and the lighting is by electric arc lamps. The opening ceremony was performed by Lord Claud Hamilton, High Steward of the borough, and chairman of the Great Eastern Railway Co, who had travelled from London in the first of the express trains which during the summer months is billed to run to this seaside resort in two and a-half hours.

THE ceremony took place in a cold, northerly wind, and spectators were glad when, after a speech in praise of Yarmouth, Lord Claud Hamilton unlocked the door with the gold key presented to him by the Corporation, and the building was quickly filled. During the afternoon the band of the Prince of Wales's Own Norfolk Artillery played selections of music, and in the evening a concert was held in which the following artists took part:—Madame Effie Thomas, soprano; Miss Edna Thornton, contralto; Mr James Davis, tenor; and Mr David Evans, baritone. Mr Harry Tunbridge has been appointed manager of the Winter Garden and Wellington Pavilion and Gardens, all owned by the Corporation.

THE St. James's Hall, Wrexham, will shortly be pulled down, as the site has been secured by the Postmaster-General for the purpose of enlarging the Wrexham Post-office. The hall was built by Mr James Edgar, who was formerly postmaster of Wrexham for twenty-five years, and who for some years managed the hall himself. Last season Mr James A. Hicks, formerly of Newcastle, leased it; but the venture was not very successful.

ONE of the Sisters Navette has met with an unfortunate accident. Whilst performing at the Alhambra, Hull, she fell and somewhat severely sprained her ankle. She has been ordered complete rest by the doctor for some days.

MR CARLTON ST. AUBYN, having disposed of his interest in the Gaiety Varieties, West Hartlepool, is now taking a well-earned holiday on the Continent, and on his return will open another music hall.

MISS RUBY BIJOU, although only last week at the Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth, returns there in August. She also holds return dates for Clacton-on-Sea, Walton-on-the-Naze, Dover, and Eastbourne Piers.

MR G. B. RICHTER has been appointed refreshment manager of the Royal Victoria Theatre and Pavilion, Ramsgate. This palatial building will open on the 29th inst., when the Princess Louise is expected to be present.

DANCREY, the beautiful and accomplished Parisienne, who was the unrivalled star at last season's revue at the Folies Bergere, has been specially and exclusively engaged to appear at the Alhambra. In Paris Mdlle. Dancrey enjoys the distinction of being the one artist to possess the rare combination of excelling alike as vocalist and dancer, and being, moreover, an accomplised commedienne. For her London season she brings a new scena, with a dance which has been specially arranged for her.

MR DU BOIS (of Griffin and Du Bois) AND MR RAMZA (of Ramza and Arno), have doubled up, and as high-class acrobatic comedians have been scoring a success in America. They are expected to arrive in England to-day per the ss. Lucania.

MISS LIL HAWTHORNE, having entirely recovered from her long indisposition, will commence her provincial tour of twelve weeks in Newcastle on Monday, returning for her London season Sept. 5.

CLEOPATRA, like Eve, will always be associated with the sinuous serpent, and the Egyptian Queen's namesake, who is very appropriately performing in South Africa, has recently been presented with the largest python from the Zoological Gardens, Pretoria. The ophidian readily submitted to the discipline of its new owner, and is now introduced nightly into her daring performance.

MR A. PHANTO, of the Phantos, has again been very successful with his bulldogs, winning two firsts, two seconds, four silver medals, and a wedgwood vase. He now rejoices in the possession of a beautiful litter of eight puppies, the father of them being Galtee More, whom he sent to South Africa a few weeks back. Major Meller, of Toronto, has purchased from him Master Chinosal, a great prize winner, and the brood bitches Money Spinner and Brixton Queen. The cheque which induced Mr Phanto to part with these three dogs was a very large one.

MR OSWALD STOLL in the new Coliseum will make a great feature of a conservatory tea-room, which will stretch the entire width of the front in St. Martin's-lane, and he intends to engage the services of a first-class orchestra. The whole of the floor of the auditorium will be occupied by stalls and wide gangways, with a semicircle of boxes at the rear, in the centre of which will be the Royal box The central portion of the stage, 75ft. in diameter, is to work in three concentric rings, each of which will revolve at the rate of twenty miles an hour in either direction. Overhead will be a goliath crane ready also to run in a circle. Already Mr Marshall Moore, the stage-manager who produced the sensational chariot race in *Ben Hur*, at Drury-lane, is at the Coliseum devising the new spectacles that are to amaze us when the house opens at Christmas. It is said that the possibilities of this mechanism, which is costing £20 000, are remarkable.

THE Coliseum will be the first place of amusement in London to be provided with lifts. Hitherto the London County Council has refused to sanction lifts because of the danger that, in case of fire, the shaft would act as a furnace flue. Mr Frank Matcham, the architect, has got over this difficulty by an ingenious contrivance, by means of which the lift as it leaves each floor automatically seals the shaft.

MR CHARLES MORTON is enjoying a well-deserved rest at Acoot, where he has been since Wednesday morning last. Mr Morton has not been particularly well during the past few weeks, and his fortnight's holiday in the country will no doubt greatly recruit his health.

MR DAVID DAY will be glad to receive any votes for the London Orphan Asylum on behalf of Harold William Allan, son of the late Ernest Allan, whose lamentably early death left his young family unprovided for.

WE regret to hear that Mr Frank Weeks is confined to his room by an attack of bronchitis. On Tuesday evening he was so ill that his doctor thought it advisable to call in the aid of a physician. He is now much better, and there is every reasonable expectation of his recovery at an early date.

THE 358th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr Charles Coborn, V.P., presiding. The secretary reported that seventeen new members had joined during the past week, making the total number enrolled since the commencement of 10,279 After a large amount of business had been considered the meeting was adjourned until next Tuesday at the usual hour.

THE second river outing of the officers and committee of the M.H.A.R.A. and their friends has been fixed for Sunday, July 3 They are to be congratulated on having selected this date, as it is undoubtedly the river day of the whole year, being the Sunday commencing Henley regatta week. The party will travel by train from Paddington to Great Marlow, and thence by launch right through the regatta course up to Sonning. The committee has been fortunate in chartering the Princess Beatrice, one of the finest and most commodious steam launches on the river. The reminiscences of the delightful day passed last year have naturally caused many who were present on that occasion to look forward to a repetition of the pleasure they then experienced.

MR HERBERT SPRAKE, of Lansdowne House, Seven Sisters-road, Stoke Newington, at one time proprietor of Collins's, who died on May 12, aged fifty-two years, left estate of £53 782. The bequests include £100 to the Islington Dispensary, £20 to the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum, and £20 to the Licensed Victuallers' Schools.

DR. WALFORD BODIE, who has repeated the great success of his last visit to the Britannia, will finish to-night, and will open on Monday at the People's Palace, Bristol, for three weeks with his own company, commencing his annual provincial tour there. It will be remembered that during his last visit to Bristol he broke all records at the Palace, his takings for the three weeks being over £1 500. Already all the best seats have been booked for every night for the first two weeks, and it would seem as if he was going to break his own record. He returns to London, one month, in August to the London, Shoreditch, Collins's, Hammersmith, Camberwell, the Paragon, and Canterbury, at the largest salary ever paid an artist in London. He will then work two weeks each town on the Barrasford tour with his own company, returning to London again at the end of November.

THOSE jolly dogs, the Terriers, will have their annual up-river outing to-morrow, Sunday, and only fine weather is wanted to make this popular affair as enjoyable as ever. The party will leave Waterloo at 9 45, arriving at Windsor at 11 0 The journey will then be continued on a launch up-river as far as time and other circumstances will permit. The party will return from Windsor at 8 50, arriving at Waterloo at 10·4.

THE Salambos opened at Johannesburg on Monday, May 9, with enormous success, and to a crowded house. The electric show was a big hit, and Historicus (Elre C. Salambo), the child historian, caused nothing less than a furore. The talk in Johannesburg society at the present moment is about this wonderful little girl, and on her second appearance she went better than ever. After being on the stage thirty-two minutes she took five calls.

THE next meeting of the Haverstock Trotting Club will be held at Wembley Park on Monday, when a large gathering of those interested in the sport is expected.

THE newest clients on Messrs Pacey and Reeves's books are the Kings (Charles and Jennie). Their entertainment, a variety mélange, has proved an instantaneous attraction, and their sole agents have booked them at all the Empires. Mr Geo. Adney Payne has booked the Kings up to 1907.

SIGNORA VITTORIA DEL BONO'S matinée musicale given in the small room of the Queen's Hall on Wednesday was not as well attended as it deserved to have been. Signora Vittoria is a sister of the Cavaliere del Bono, who was for so many years the musical director of the Aquarium, and more recently the conductor of the orchestra at the Paragon Theatre. Among those who assisted at the matinée were Signora G. Alexich, Senor A. C. Obregon, Madame Elisa Verni, Miss Margot Severn, Signor Tito Mattei, Mr H. Brockbank, and Miss T. Blamy.

THE action between Moss's Empires and Mr Tom Leamore, re the barring clause, has been fixed for the 14th inst., in the Chancery Division, before Mr Justice Eady.

THE Dayton Family are just finishing a successful six weeks' engagement at the Tivoli Copenhagen On the 16th they commence at Folkets Park, Malmoë, Sweden, and return at the end of July to England, where they will be very welcome.

A DRAMATIC scene occurred on Sunday afternoon in the Bostock Menagerie, at Paris, during the performance of M. Millar, the lion tamer, with his seven lions, two of whom are new to the troupe. One of the new animals furiously attacked and bit the tamer severely in the shoulder. The greatest excitement prevailed among the audience, but Millar beat off the lion, and then, although his shoulder was covered with blood, continued his performance to the end. He was afterwards attended by a doctor, but his injury was not considered serious.

MR ARTHUR YATES will be leaving the Grand, Clapham shortly, and will be probably discovered at no very distant date at a well-known West-end establishment, not a mile from the National Gallery. He has made himself very popular with the inhabitants of Lavender-hill and the regions adjacent; and we understand that a gentleman already well-known in the halls is to succeed him. It is on the cards that the Grand, Clapham, will be run on the two-houses-nightly plan.

MUSIC HALL enterprise in South Africa is apparently centred in the well-known Hyman family, who are doing for our newest possessions what Harry Rickards has done for Australia. The Hymans, who are represented in this country by the popular Mr Sydney M. Hyman, have had their eyes on Durban, and that important centre of activity and enterprise in Natal is to have a new music hall. Mr Edgar Hyman, who is now in America securing talent for the Empire, Johannesburg, and the Tivoli, Cape Town, will settle plans for the new establishment on his return to this country.

THE death is announced of Mr Charles Lawrie, a music hall comedian unknown to the present generation, but who in the late seventies and early eighties secured considerable popularity by his song "The Ticket-of-Leave-Man." He was for some little time chairman of Lusby's Summer and Winter Palace, and held that position when that hall was burnt down on Jan. 20, 1884. Of late years his services were occasionally sought for charitable entertainments, and the last time the writer saw him in public was at the Banqueting Room, St. James's Hall, at a variety concert given by Billy Bint, the well-known singer of "I tell them my father's a marquis," and at one time chairman of the Oxford. The funeral of the deceased took place on Monday at Finchley Cemetery in the presence of a large assembly. The wreaths included a cross, sent by the Two M'Naughtons, cousins.

THE London Pavilion cricket team on Tuesday won an unexpected victory over an eleven playing for the Apollo Theatre, on the latter's ground at Shepherd's-bush. The variety team were dismissed for the very small total of twenty-four, on a wicket that could not be considered difficult; but the theatricals did far worse when they went in. They were dismissed for the paltry total of sixteen. Cobbett had the wonderful record of seven wickets for eight runs.

MR WALTER GILBERT, who has written songs for Miss Marie Loftus, the late George Beauchamp, and Fred Harvey, has furnished Mr Harry Freeman and Miss Vesta Victoria with successful new numbers, and, in conjunction with Mr J. P. Harrington, has just fitted Mr Ernest Rees with a funny new selection entitled, "It ain't my bizness."

MR HORACE MARRIOTT, the secretary of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, has received from Miss Rose Newport £1 3s. 4d; from Mr C. Blythe Pratt, of the Oxford, £3 15s. 3d.; and from Mr Fred Miller, of the Canterbury, £2 0s. 10d.—the amounts collected by them in their respective pence boxes; also £1 5s. from Mr F. Coles, of the Lyric Theatre, Liverpool. The president and committee beg to thank these kind workers on behalf of the Fund.

MR PAT DOHERTY, the Irish M.P., has just returned from a delightful trip in the Mediterranean. He spent ten hours at Tangier, Algiers, and at one or two Spanish towns, making his way back to London viâ Plymouth.

MR TOM COSTELLO has in preparation for production at a West-end place of entertainment a romantic song-scena on the subject of *Claude Duval* In this the artist will be assisted by fifty auxiliaries, and a coach and four will be employed on the stage. Mr John Hyman, speaking of the dresses to be used, says that he has "beaten his best," which is saying much The production, which is estimated to cost £1 600, is from the joint pens of John P. Harrington and the ubiquitous Bennett Scott.

"ARE WE TO HAVE CONSCRIPTION?" is the title of Miss Vesta Tilley's new song, which she will produce on Monday at the Tivoli and Oxford. It is written by Mr J. F. Lambe, and the music is composed by Mr Tom Mellor. It has already been secured by Messrs Hopwood and Crew, the well-known publishers of New Bond street.

MR HARRY ADAMS (of "On Guard" fame) has joined hands with Mr Peter Conroy, late conductor of the Canterbury, and the pair have fitted with songs Miss Katie Lawrence, Mr Arthur Roberts, Mr Dan Leno, and Mr Tom Costello.

MISS EILEEN DOUGLAS, a most dainty and charming vocalist and a singularly graceful dancer, has just sold to Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter a song by Fred W. Leigh and George Le Brunn, entitled "She taught him a thing or two, too."

MR PAUL SCHULTZE, of Berlin, the well-known Continental agent, has opened London branch offices at 12, Panton-street, S.W., and has made arrangements with Mr Taff Volta to represent him thereat. The world-wide experience of Mr Volta, who is one of the twin brothers Volta, of Hanlon-Volta fame, should prove of great value in this new combination.

THE management of the Duchess Theatre, Balham, state that there is no truth in the report published on Saturday that Aberg rushed on the stage there on Friday night, and grappled Hackenschmidt. Neither is it true that the latter broke away and retired to the wings. Aberg, whose presence was unknown, appeared at the wings in wrestling costume, and challenged a match with Hackenschmidt, who was then preparing to commence his contest with Gruhn, which had been specially arranged. Aberg was dissuaded from approaching Hackenschmidt before a match had been formally arranged, and left the building. Hackenschmidt's match with Gruhn was proceeded with.

MESSRS FRANCIS, DAY, AND HUNTER have accepted for early publication Mr Tom Costello's latest successful dramatic "song scena," entitled *Mad Willie; or, Ding, Dong, Bell.*" written by John P. Harrington and the late Fred Gilbert, the music to which has been composed by Bennett Scott, so well known in connection with Mr Tom Costello's earlier success, "I've made up my mind to sail away."

THE same firm has also purchased no less than four songs this week from Mr George Lashwood. On Monday "Oh, Girls," by J. Harrington and George Le Brunn, and "Sir Roger de Coverley," by Richard Morton and E. St. Quentin, were accepted by Mr Day; and on Wednesday he bought Mr Lashwood's other new songs, entitled "Angelina Hank" and "If I were King," both by George Arthurs and Kenneth Lyle, author and composer of his now famous song, "The Statue in Trafalgar-square."

ALF GIBSON'S latest London success, entitled "Frozen Meat," written and composed by T. W. Connor, has been secured for publication by Messrs Francis and Day's.—Nat Travers and his aristocrats open shortly with a scena entitled *Life in an East-end Hotel.* To assist him in the production he has several well-known comedians and auxiliaries.—The Smythsons will present their successful novelty *The Lie Alarm* at Shepherd's-bush on Monday, when they commence a six months' tour of Messrs Moss and Stoll's Empires

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

On Monday Lord George Sanger's Circus was located in the Brewery Meadows, Chesterfield, and gave two performances to large and appreciative audiences.

The Market and Fair Travellers' Association was again in evidence on Monday morning last at Rugby. Mr A. R. Burns, the secretary, was the principal speaker, and was supported by Mr H. Humphries, Mr J. Cordwell, and others. Several new members were admitted, including Mr Percy Chavase, of balloon fame.

At Flyford we have had Mr T. Scott's steam galloping horses, park swings, African jungle, cokernut gardens, &c.; Sorrell's Oriental bazaar and confectionery stalls; and other amusements by Messrs Scott, Smith, Bullock, and Lanni.

At the Royal Hotel Yard, Redditch, we have Mr Thomas Clarke's grand circular switchback railway, park swings, shooting saloons, cokernut sheets, &c.; F. Wilson's African jungle and mollies, and other novelties by Messrs Clarke, Taylor, Seaton, and Newman.

At Feckenham we have had Fossett's London Circus and Hippodrome giving excellent performances.

At Alvechurch have been C. Herbert's riding circus, swing boats, shooting saloons, cokernuts, and stalls.

At Outwood Feast, in Yorkshire, Mr Hy. Ashington's Cinématograph and Mr J. Stewart's boxing and athletic exhibition were accompanied by the highfliers, gem swings, and gallopers of Messrs Johnson, Greaves, and Edmonds; the shooters, sheets, &c., were those of Burgess, Goodall, Doubtfire, Griffiths, Redfern, Vanner, Walker, Edmondson, Miller, Brogden, and Bassett.

At Penrith-on-Laal, Whit Tuesday, the North of England hirings terminated. Here we had Messrs Relph and Pedley's elect show, Randall Williams successor's cinématograph, Mr John Manders' waxwork museum, Sahib Leo's Egyptian Hall, Mr Stanley Longman's prodigious baby, Mr Alf Haydn's trance medium, Mr John Chambers' "armless carpenter. The machines were Messrs Caris and Fox's grand gondolas, Messrs Richardson's zoological roundabouts; shooting saloons, pannums, cokershies, and the minor fun of the Fair provided by Messrs Broughton, Searson, Palmer, Bradshaw, Shaw, and others. The proprietors of the organs were surprised to receive a copy of the bye-laws relating to organs annoying residents. The policeman who delivered them gave gratis a significant nod. Messrs Wm. Pedley and James Leo interviewed the Town Clerk, and arrived at this understanding:—Organs to play till 10 0 o'clock on Monday night and 11 0 o'clock on Tuesday during the fair.

Mr J. Orton Hayes's People's Theatre, at the Pleasure Fair Ground, Carmarthen, has again been well patronised during the week, *Shadows of a Great City*, *The Unknown*, and *Flying Jib* being the pieces selected for interpretation, and they were most creditably placed upon the boards, under the direction of Mr J. H. Clinch, the stage-manager. The Parez Trio, musical artistes and hand-bell ringers, give a very pleasing turn.

Carmarthen June Fair was held this week, and, the weather being delightful, good business was done. Messrs H. Studt and Sons' fine electric gondolas, Testo's Cinématograph and marionettes, and Mr David Boswell's cocoanut shies and shooting-galleries were the chief attractions, together with Mr J. Orton Hayes's Theatre, at which three performances were given daily of *The Maid of Cefn Ydfa.*

At Wallbrook on Wednesday Mr Harry Wilding took his benefit, *East Lynne* being performed by the marionettes. Hundreds were turned away.

INFORMATION relating to Shows and Fairs, suitable for this column, should be addressed to THE EDITOR, "The Showman World."

WE regret to record the death of Miss Lottie Walton, the well-known burlesque actress. The deceased lady, who was only twenty-seven, was known in private life as Mrs Lottie Robinson, passed away in Westminster Hospital on Saturday afternoon from peritonitis. Late on Friday evening she was taken seriously ill at her residence in Bessborough-street, Pimlico, and her condition on Saturday was so grave that she was removed to the hospital named, where, in spite of every care, she succumbed.

MISS WALTON had been on the stage since the age of twelve, and came of a very well-known professional family, her grandfather and grandmother being Mr and Mrs Harry Waite. Miss Nettie Waite, who married one of the Poluski Brothers, was her aunt; Miss Ethel Dove and Miss Ida Kathrena were her sisters; and the Kimberley Boys (now in South America) her brothers. Miss Walton, who was a favourite at the London Pavilion, the Tivoli, Metropolitan, and South London, where she appeared most successfully, possessed a fine figure, and her services as principal boy were much sought after in pantomime. Her favourite character was Whittington, and two of her successful music hall numbers were "Simple little silly" and "Cameo cigarettes." She was to have appeared at Christmas at the Theatre Royal, Croydon. The funeral took place at Tooting Cemetery on Wednesday, where her remains were interred in the family grave. She leaves a devoted husband and a little boy aged three to mourn her loss.

AT West London Police-court, on Wednesday, David Barnett Warwick, aged thirty-one, music hall manager, of 5, Hereford-house, Ardville-road, Brixton, was charged on remand, before Mr Lane, K.C., with stealing £144 17s. 2d., belonging to the Granville Theatre of Varieties, Limited, Walham-green. Mr Hedderwick, for the prosecution, said the accused was engaged as manager last August, at a weekly salary of £5, his duties being to engage the artists and to bank each night's takings on the following morning. The sum of £144 17s. 2d. represented three nights' takings.

WHEN Warwick's irregularities came to the directors he wrote the following letter to the chairman:—"Dear Mr Campbell,—I have to make an awful confession to you, that I have spent money belonging to the company, and do not like to face the directors. I would have paid it on my testimonial coming off. The reason is that certain debts which I had have been pressed on me, and during the last month it has cost over £50 through my being security for one person, and law costs which I have incurred. I did not mean to be dishonest, and would have paid back, and will, if you will let me stay at the hall until my testimonial comes off, and then I know I should have to go. Please don't go and not give me a chance of paying up. I will wait at my house for your answer, but I would ask you and the directors not to do anything at present, but give me a chance to pay back the money." Accused was further remanded on bail.

MR FRED ZOLA, who is now on the Moss Empires Circuit, will return to London for one week on July 11, afterwards resuming his provincial tour at Bradford. As a pantomime comedian Zola has fulfilled successful engagements at Drury-lane, and was for four seasons at the Surrey with the late Mr George Conquest. He has also played important comedy rôles at the Prince's, Manchester, at the Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, the Princess's, Glasgow, and at Liverpool, and has a most gratifying record of successful achievements as a fun provider. He has great expectations concerning a song written for him by Mr Albert Hall, which he will produce on his return to town.

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE OXFORD.

A special feature in the Oxford programme is the reappearance, after her remarkably successful American tour, of the favourite male impersonator, Miss Vesta Tilley, whose clever character studies are as popular as ever with variety theatre audiences. Faultlessly attired in a suit of light flannels Miss Tilley opens with a song descriptive of "the flannelled fool"—the City clerk who promenades the pier, ogles all the girls, and generally makes himself conspicuous during his brief holiday by "the briny." In her second ditty, "Ain't you a wise old owl?" sarcastic reference is made to the tipster who, curiously enough, refrains from backing his own selections; to Dr. Dowie, who saves souls—and money, other topics of the day also receiving attention. Miss Tilley's third song is the well-known "Following in father's footsteps," a neat impersonation of a youth who emulates the gay doings of his dear old dad, much to the disgust and indignation of "ma." Miss Tilley continues to render her songs with the delicacy and finish that have always characterised her method and secured for her the high position she has attained as an artist. Clark and Hamilton, who are also making their reappearance after a tour in Australia, return to delight home audiences with their clever, humorous, and varied turn. The excellent piano playing of the tramp and his curious antics and humorous by-play with his charming partner are greatly enjoyed, and the entertaining couple give as an encore their smart and attractive song and dance, "The Wedding of the Chinee and the Jap." Mr Ernest Shand has recently taken to telling funny stories, which keep his auditors continually on the smile. He also scores with his really humorous and well-written ditty, "By kind permission of the *Daily Mail*," and his comic recitation of "Little Bo-Peep" in various dialects. Miss Vesta Victoria has a song concerning "A baby with man's ways," the humorous lament of an ill-treated married woman united to a poor creature who had the misfortune to be his mother's baby boy. She also gives with much animation and spirit an impersonation of a precocious child who is "as happy as the day is long," her lively dance at the finish being especially appreciated. The marvellous Abdullah Arabs go through their wonderfully expert tumbling, somersaulting, &c, with all the old skill and success, obtaining as usual a most enthusiastic reception. Miss Florence Esdaile's excellent voice and cultured vocalism tell in the rendering of "The Soldiers' Chorus" from *Faust* and another song. The singing of Miss Maggie Walsh, the Lancashire mill girl, is also listened to with pleasure and loudly applauded. Mr George Brooks still relies on his humorous ditty, "And his day's work was done"—one of the funniest songs of the day—and he secures a warm welcome. That clever and resourceful little comedian Mr Harry Pleon does well with "He is the darling of the gods," having reference to the immaculate hero of melodrama, and also to General Buller. Well received too is Mr Pleon's amusing skit on the sketch question, with Sir Henry Irving as magistrate, Mr Martin Harvey as advocate, and Messrs Dan Leno, Wilson Barrett, Joe Elvin, and others as witnesses, a good deal of sly fun being directed at a certain manager-actor, who is represented by a property tree. All the imitations are excellent, and Mr Pleon is heartily applauded. Mr Joe O'Gorman relates with gusto his funny anecdotes concerning his friend Flanaghan; he also sings the popular ditty "Bedelia," and concludes with a smart dance. Boyd and Gilfain give a comical burlesque of the drama, the Italian opera, and Scotch concerts, the lady playing the bagpipes. She is also responsible for a clever dialect song, in which she imitates the different people she met while a barmaid in various countries. Nelson's Newsboys Quintet sing agreeably, the remarkably smart dancing of one of the lads evoking loud applause. Miss Eileen Douglas sings of a cute young miss who "taught the kiddies at the infant school," and dances prettily. Mr Alf Gibson quaintly sings "I got the sack." The coster song, "Look what education's done for Bob," enables Mr Nat Travers to start the programme in interesting fashion. Miss Edie King, charmingly costumed, sings and dances well; Mr Tom Leamore is prominent with funny songs and business; Madame Carrie Laurie's Juveniles appear in their "Kindergarten" act; other powerful attractions including the Japanese wrestler, Yukio Tani; Mr Jake Friedman, known as "the one-man opera;" and Mr Arthur Rigby and company, in the successful scena entitled *Crystal Palace Bank Holiday*.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

The patrons of the Holloway Empire this week have had a bright, merry programme placed before them, and the two hours' entertainment has evidently given complete satisfaction. Indeed, the flow of fun and merriment scarcely ceases from the first turn to the last, the sketches which form an important part of the current bill being the principal inducements to mirth. A brisk turn is that given by the Werner Amoros Troupe in the broadly farcical sketch *An Artist's Studio*. As in so many pieces of a similar kind a prominent character is an active and mischievous boy in buttons who is always playing pranks and causing trouble. The representative of the part in *An Artist's Studio* proves himself to be a smart juggler, and is so skilful that he can manipulate nine balls. In the background is an electric battery which is worked by the inquisitive page boy, with the remarkable result that the statue of a lady in a Grecian costume suddenly becomes animated and descends from its pedestal, after the manner of the beautiful Galatea in Mr Gilbert's comedy. The lady being very much in the way is ignominiously placed in a large sack and carried out of the room, her place on the vacant pedestal being taken by a gentleman in an eccentric dress, who, when a fire is lighted underneath him, finds his position a very warm one. The sketch concludes with a general mêlee, the room being rendered a perfect wreck, and the floor littered with debris. Mr Fred Karno's company is also here this week in the new sketch called *Saturday to Monday*, which has already been noticed in these columns. This production has been as heartily welcomed in North London as it was over the other side of the river, and the funny situations and business have evoked the heartiest merriment. The doings of the reluctant bridegroom have been the chief cause of the mirth, and when it is said that this part is played by Mr Fred Kitchen with an evident determination to take every possible opportunity of forcing the fun, a sufficient guarantee is given that the piece excites an almost continual ripple of merriment. Jaggs, whether presiding at the wedding breakfast, engaged in an unsuccessful attempt to carve a tough bird, or masquerading as a porter at a busy railway station, is always the centre of the picture, and Mr Kitchen's humour is keenly appreciated and enjoyed. When left in charge of an infant by a lachrymose lady of uncertain age the comedian is seen at his best, and causes roars of laughter. Another amusing episode comes in the last scene, where an elderly gentleman, who has been brought on in a Bath chair, unexpectedly shows fight, and gives Jaggs a severe lesson in the noble art of self-defence, to the huge delight of his numerous offspring. Mr Kitchen has the valuable support of an excellent hard working company, and the piece is briskly played from beginning to end. Extremely amusing are the Brothers Griffiths in their burlesque of a wrestling match, one of the "champions" displaying an abnormal muscular development of legs and arms. The contest is watched by the audience with manifest enjoyment, terminating only with the defeat of the man of muscle. Amongst the single turns is Tiny Arnold, described as "the smallest star artist on the stage," who contributes a song and dance with acceptance. Next in the list is Miss Bertha Vere, who is applauded for her excellent rendering of "Leave me not, dear heart." The only single turn comedian in the bill is Mr Mark Anthony, who makes everybody laugh with his patter concerning Brother Bill and his beer-drinking feats. He also gives a song in which he shows his versatility by whistling and introducing a little ventriloquism. The Damm Brothers are remarkably smart eccentric acrobats who meet with deserved success. Miss Lucy Clarke, the Irish contralto vocalist, meets with a warm welcome, her selection of songs including "What are the children thinking" and the old favourite, "Rory O'More." Her rendering of the last-mentioned is particularly spirited and effective. Mr Chas. W. Adams, the acting manager here, has the satisfaction of seeing crowded houses nightly, showing that the bill of fare is of the right kind. Mr Thomas Gray is the able and careful musical director at this hall.

THE MIDDLESEX.

The belle of the bill at the Middlesex is Miss Gracie Grahame, who throughout the week has been the idol of crowded audiences at Mr Graydon's hall. Beauty in distress never appeals in vain to the patrons of the popular house, and the cordiality of her reception on Monday bore evidence that, though the law had hardened its heart against Miss Grahame, that of the public had warmed towards her. The original "Charlie" has been temporarily banished from the répertoire of the charming comedienne, who laments that he has been "lost in the law-courts," but his double appears in the course of the song. The first verse locates him in the gallery, the second in the balcony, and eventually he is run to earth in the stalls, where with tears and entreaties "his Gracie," endeavours to pursuade him to come to her; but "Charlie," impervious to all her cajolery, buries his blushes in the evening paper, and finally hurries, covered with confusion, from the hall. The song is cleverly worked by Miss Grahame, whose talent for low comedy is of the first order, and who keeps the audience in unceasing laughter, gaining innumerable recalls. A diversion is created by Mr Sam Mayo, who for once appears in the capacity of judge, offering a prize for the closest imitation of himself in the song "Oof! oof! oof!" He sets an impossible task, for the immobile comedian has no parallel, but half-a-dozen applicants for the honour appeared on Monday, two of them being selected to appear in the final on Friday evening. The contest developed some humorous incidents, not the least amusing of which was Mr Mayo's quaint announcements of the competitors, one of them being referred to as "M'Carthy, from Russia," while another was introduced as Mr Justice Darling. Every part of Mr Graydon's programme makes for merriment, an abundance of which is aroused by the Collinson Combination in *The Cook's Guests*. The knockabout fun of the favourite troupe has unlimited scope, which is fully exercised in a travesty of the drama *The Sign of the Cross*, with the head of the company in the rôle of Nero; the other parts of the popular play being also burlesqued. Another sketch that provokes hilarity is that of *A Married Microbe*, played by Mr H. O. Clarey and Miss Kate Chard, while a climax is reached with the farce *Early Birds*, in which the efforts of the Karno Troupe of speechless comedians are attended by explosions of mirth from end to end. The pictures shown by the Edisonograph are varied and interesting, the Canadian pastimes film being very exciting. Comedy and tragedy are combined in the story of circus life in which a young lady falls from a tight-rope into the ring beneath, the rope having been cut by a dastardly hand. Other films of an equally enthralling character are thrown upon the screen, all of them being thoroughly appreciated. The Eight Lancashire Lads do their dancing display to the perfect satisfaction of all, their coon song and dance, in which four of them take the parts of girls, being well performed and being greeted with enthusiastic cheers. Miss Daisy Morell gains unmistakable favour as a burlesque artiste, and the Sisters Slater, who dress up in neat uniform for their first song, afterwards accompany a neat dance on banjoes. A novelty is supplied by the Crown Trio, who appear as a Scottish and British soldier, who come to bid their aged mother good-bye. Incidentally they sing a song each, the old lady being induced herself to give "Genevieve." The young Scotsman sings "True till Death" in fine style, and the three then join in a prettily concerted trio, supplementing it with a rendering of "Annie Laurie," not so happily harmonised. Mr Harry Tate's *Motoring* company appear in the automobile sketch which the celebrated mimic has rendered famous. No clue is given as to the artiste who impersonates the character of the ludicrous motorist, but he does it very well, and causes boundless merriment. Stirling and Love are seen in a musical comedy act; Dan Dee is an American comedy juggler of remarkable skill; and Mr Fred Carey, comedian, and Miss Lola Dalby also supply items of the varied entertainment. Under the control of Mr William Skerry, the orchestra acquits itself well of its work, "Home again" and Suppé's "Light Cavalry" forming the overture.

NEW GRAND, CLAPHAM-JUNCTION.

A varied and interesting programme of more than average merit is offered at the Grand this week by the popular and able manager, Mr Arthur Yates. Nipper Lupino Lane is a small boy comedian who sings with evident enjoyment of the fun about "Home for my holidays," following with a dance delightful in its lightness and freshness. Lord, Murray, and Lord do a very clever turn with Indian clubs, punching balls, and boxing-gloves. Charles Russell has a good voice and uses it to the best advantage. He first renders a patriotic song that is evidently to the taste of his audience. In his second selection, a song, "O, Mars, Mars," as a messenger straight from Mars he remarks upon some of the abuses of to-day. Sam Mayo is a comedian with a style which is all his own. In his first song he describes imaginary heroic efforts, beginning each line with "Didn't I do" so and so; and then adds finally "No." His second selection is received with enthusiastic plaudits, and he has to yield to an encore. My Fancy is a most accomplished dancer, agile and light on her feet. Her sand dance is remarkable, and always evokes storms of applause. The Dauntons-Shaw Troupe of expert cyclists, consisting of three pretty young ladies and two men, are very clever, and afford a most pleasing and entertaining turn; Walter Munroe is an Irish vocalist of considerable merit, with a fine voice and captivating style. His second song has the refrain, "She's my little girl," and he upsets our calculations by adding that the lady referred to was "only three months old." He is a light and skilful dancer. Lillie Langtry may, indeed, be called a "sprightly" comedienne. She works tremendously hard, and much enlivens her audience. Her first song is "At Alexandra Park" and her second "Good Old Hampstead Heath." Arthur Rigby and company have a very amusing sketch entitled *A Crystal Palace Bank Holiday*, in which the fun is fast and furious. It is embellished with some smart dancing and singing. Grace Merton has a beautiful voice, and charms the audience with very intelligent renderings of such old favourites as "Flight of Ages" and "Queen of the Earth." Phil Ray does a clever turn, and keeps the house in a roar. Booker and Narbis are typically American. Bert Holmes is a vocalist with a rich bass voice, and he scores with "The Bandolero" and "Don't say goodbye, my Mignonette." Ben Hur, an athlete aged only twenty, who does some remarkable feats of strength, concludes a very excellent entertainment. The orchestra, under the leadership of Mr James Sale, deserves a word of praise.

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

MUSIC HALL CELEBRITIES.

MISS RACHEL LOWE.

It is the exception rather than the rule when a child prodigy retains his or her cleverness in after life. Miss Rachel Lowe, the subject of this brief biography, is one of the exceptions, and from the smiles that nightly greet her efforts we might say a very happy exception. It may be said that Miss Lowe was born in the profession, her father, Mr Tom Lowe, being connected with its leading London and provincial theatres. From the children's chorus of a pantomime she quickly pushed her way to the higher dignity of speaking parts, which she played with several of our leading actors. Then as a very little girl she made her first essay as a single turn in the music halls. At the age of thirteen she was engaged for a tour of India, Java, and the Straits Settlements. Here in addition to her singing Miss Lowe introduced the serpentine dance, which at the time was the novelty of the music hall stage. Some very interesting experiences of theatrical life abroad are told by Miss Lowe, some not altogether pleasant, as she has endured all the trials and vicissitudes of a performer being stranded in a foreign land. However, courage and perseverance conquer many obstacles, and from her experiences Miss Lowe must have been endowed with both, for she overcame all difficulties, and what promised to be a disastrous season turned out most successfully. On her return to England she appeared as the Lady Journalist, in *The New Barmaid*, and, later, with the Duchess of Dijon's company, *The Belle of New York*, and several other well-known companies, also in pantomime, but finally turned to music halls, where as Jane, in the sketch *The Private Seance*, she made a great success. No sketch was more popular, and it afforded an excellent vehicle for the display of Miss Lowe's varied talents and pronounced versatility. The sketch was as popular with managers as with the public, and the bookings extended into 1907. The unfortunate illness of Miss Lowe's husband, Mr Tom Collins, who was the author of the sketch and played a prominent part in it, rendered it necessary for her to begin again as a single turn. The wisdom of this step has been proved by the great success that has attended her efforts, and within a very short space of time she has stepped into the front rank of entertainers. Endowed with a keen appreciation of humour, and the capacity for imparting it to an audience, Miss Lowe has created a distinct line of business, which is very welcome to the music hall public. Her appearance at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle, at Christmas as principal boy surprised many of her admirers, who had heretofore identified her with low comedy parts. Miss Lowe is now appearing at the London Pavilion, where she is making a feature of two decidedly original songs. "Any Rags?" which she introduced first to London at the Tivoli Music Hall, is a quaint, weird sort of number which holds the audience from start to finish. Her new song, "A lucky duck," which she produced on June 6, made an instantaneous hit. It is adapted from

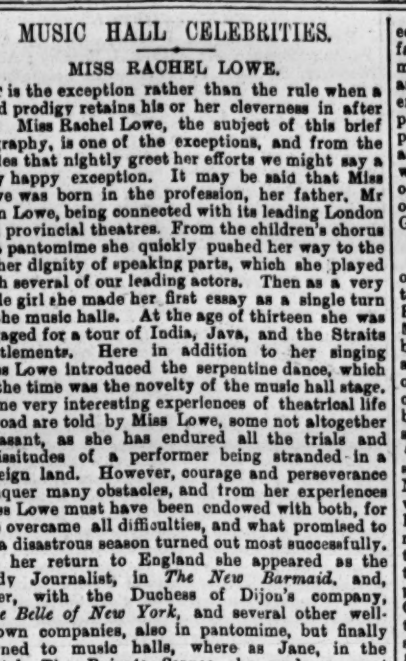

Photo by Brewis.

MISS RACHEL LOWE.

Howard Whitney's instrumental piece bearing the same title, which is very popular with bands and orchestras, and in its new form promises to be the song of the season.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

If the delightful weather which ushered in the present week was not conducive to theatre-going, it affected to little extent the attendance at this cheery and comfortable variety theatre on Monday night. A reason for this is probably found in the fact that such a good standard is maintained in the quality of the weekly programme submitted that a visit to the Empire has become quite a matter of course with local playgoers, a happy state of affairs, of which Mr Sam Gething, the genial and assiduous acting-manager, is justly proud. Topping the bill this week is bright and debonair George Lashwood. Faultlessly attired in evening dress, he sings "Required, a Lady," a free invitation to the fair sex to share the singer's joys and sorrows, which evokes much merriment. His second item is a sort of soliloquy sung to "My Latchkey" by a young "spark" on the last night of his bachelordom, which is in high favour, and the singer afterwards appears in spruce military uniform, and tells of "England's Heroes," which is received with acclamation. He is not allowed to retire yet, for the audience perpetuate Dickens's workhouse boy and "ask for more," and "George," who is nothing if not versatile, responds with the ever-popular "Fol-the-rol-lol." Frank and Jen Latona in "The Musical Slavey" are cordially received. The lady of the duo possesses a very sweet voice with remarkably good high notes, and her ballad singing affords the keenest pleasure, in addition to which she is an accomplished pianist. The gentleman, made up in exaggerated tramp attire, is an expert musician, and as they introduce plenty of witty gags and cross-talk the blend of music and mirth is in high favour. The Glenroy Troupe are huge favourites at Stratford, and their speciality *The Lads of the New Brigade* is cheered vociferously. In addition, the three ladies of the troupe give a Scotch dance in true style, and the two gentleman dextrously perform an Irish jig. Although styling themselves dancers, their act is something more, for they are vocalists of no mean order, and the expert way in which they perform the sword exercise renders their turn quite the best of its kind, and in a manner unique. Billy Farrell sings of a child who plaintively enquires "Are there any little angels black like me?" has a good many stories to tell, and also gives a very clever imitation of a xylophone, his turn being loudly applauded. The four prepossessing young ladies who comprise the Imperial Quartet win unstinted praise for their smart dancing and dainty singing, and the sketch, *An Hotel Boots*, contributed by the Mannings, entertainers, is screamingly funny and gains a hearty reception. Oris Richards is a Risley comedian with a droll and eccentric style, and he quickly wins his way into favour with the audience. Mlle. Yvette with her miniature hippodrome is both interesting and amusing, and the Sakers prove themselves society entertainers of a high order of merit. The bioscope pictures present a novelty in the way of coloured pictures of the "Condemnation of Faust," as well as other interesting subjects, all of which are watched with enjoyment. The current programme opens with the overture "Bohemian Girl," by the orchestra, under the brisk bâton of Mr Augustus Greco.

NEW-CROSS EMPIRE.

The summer weather does not lessen the number of the frequenters of this handsome place of entertainment so ably presided over by popular Mr Henry Raymond and his no less popular assistant, Mr Harry Burdette. On the night of our visit the building was, as usual, crowded with a delighted audience. Mr J. H. Shackleton and his capital orchestra gave a brilliant performance of the overture, "Le Chevalier Briton." This was followed by Miss Amy Sullivan, who sang with considerable success "Only room for one." She was followed by Arthur Reece, who was very warmly received in his songs "Now's the time to win" and "The Trainer." Next came Allis and Cassati in their entertainment, which is well described on the programme as a "Funny Few Minutes." This turn consists of a well-sung medley and some really funny business. Next on the list came Earle and Earle, who gave evidence of their skill and mastery of the possibilities of banjo playing. They were followed by the Sisters O'Meers, who submitted a clever performance on the tight wire, delighting all present by their grace, skill, and daring. Next came the blind pianist, Mendel. This gentleman is an old favourite in this district, and his pianoforte playing was listened to with much attention. He played "Stella," a valse of his own composing. The band next performed "Polly Prim," which he repeated on the piano from memory. "Hiawatha" was called for by the audience, and played by Mendel, and for an encore he sang to his own accompaniment "The Blind Boy." Chas. Prelle came next, and his ventriloquial efforts, assisted by dogs made up as figures, afforded general satisfaction. Will Evans followed, and received an enthusiastic welcome gave in his own inimitable style "The Barmaid's Lament," and indulged in some very funny business, much to the delight of the audience. Charles Lilburn sang in capital style "Ask 'im any more." The American Bioscope, a popular and prominent feature of the entertainment here, exhibited some new interesting pictures, those showing the bombardment of Port Arthur and other incidents of the war and the Costers' Wedding being greatly appreciated. The performance concluded with a capitally acted sketch entitled *Mashing the Missis*, presented by Horace Mills and W. H. Rawlins's company. This was received with considerable favour, and the four characters represented were admirably performed by Mr Horace Mills (Binks), Mr W. H. Rawlins (Mr Drinkwater), Miss E Hill (Mrs Drinkwater), and Miss A. May (Sally Dabbs).

ROYAL ALBERT.

An interesting and attractive item in Mr Charles Relf's programme during the week at the popular Canning-town variety house has been Professor Joe Smith's grand light-weight wrestling competition for the championship of the world and a handsome belt valued at £100. The first competitors to take the carpet in the initial heats on Monday were Dia Reece, of Swansea, champion light-weight wrestler of Wales, and Albert Hottenbreich, of Germany, who quickly gained the first fall in 25sec. Hottenbreich also defeated Reece in the second bout in 6min. 11sec. J. Reece, also of Wales, proved his superiority over Bob Strong, of Holland, in two well-contested encounters, gaining his first fall in 6min. 3sec., and his second in 3min. The heat that created the greatest excitement was that between Peter Gotz, of Germany, and George Butler, of Canning-town. The local man, who received much encouragement from the audience, made a good show, but the German eventually proved the winner in 10min. 23sec. Other champions were announced to take part in the competition during the week, and the finals are fixed for to-night. Early in the programme a decidedly favourable impression was made by the smart sand-dancing of Mr Hugh Ray, his exhausting and clever exhibition being loudly cheered. His two comic effusions, "Roo-too-iddy" and "Have a little pity for the poor comic singer," were, however, not over-burthened with humour. The Musical Coopers, speciality instrumentalists, were warmly acclaimed for their rendering of the "Post Horn Galop;" their cornet selection, "Oh Genevieve" and their singing of "The Military Band," their many facetious remarks evoking much merriment. Miss Jennie Belmore, a comedienne with a finished style and a good voice and delivery, was heard with pleasure in the popular coon ditty, "I'se a waiting for yer Josie," and also contributed "If I were King," a song which humorously dealt with the views of a soldier, a sailor, and a coster if they occupied the throne of Edward VII. Hughes and Elliott, a pair of smart and attractive American speciality dancers and vocalists, gave the necessary point to "The warmest baby in the bunch" and "There's going to be a minstrel show to-night," the clever and hard-working couple also contributing a well-executed sand dance that won for them a most flattering reception. Miss Winnie Dersou's first song, "Would someone like to spend their honeymoon with me," concerned the invitation of a somewhat forward young miss whose fickle swain had disappeared on the eve of the nuptials. The humour of the ditty appealed greatly to the audience, who were also loud in their approval of the sentiments expressed in Miss Derson's other song, "There's no one in the world like you," the popular young songstress making a decidedly favourable impression. Mr Relf's entertaining programme also included the Musical Palmers; the favourite vocalist Mr Harry Anderson, in all his latest successes; and Henry Carlton and company, in a humorous sketch, *One Night Only*. The courteous and tactful chairman, Mr Walter Leaver, gives valuable assistance to his chief; and the band is carefully and capably controlled by Mr R. A. Howell.

APPEAL FOR J. H. WOOD.

Mr J. H. Wood was for many years a well-known proprietor and manager of music halls in Hull, Leeds, Empire (Bow), and others, and the first to increase artists' salaries. Mr Wood was a patient in the Middlesex Hospital, London, for two years suffering from rodent ulcer, and has undergone four operations and the loss of one eye. He is now pronounced incurable, and is at the present time an inmate of the Christie Cancer Hospital, Oxford-street, Manchester. It is proposed by a few friends to raise a sum by subscriptions and a benefit to enable him to have what the doctors advise—a complete rest and change of air by the seaside. Any sums subscribed will be acknowledged in *The Era*.

From Artistes at Empire, Swansea:—

	£	s	d.		£	s	d.
Vesta Tilley.....	0	10	6	Griff	0	2	6
Polnski Bros.	0	10	6	Will Johnson	0	2	6
Stelling and Revell	0	5	0	M. Sheridan.....	0	2	6

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I herewith enclose you cheque—one guinea—for Mr J. H. Wood. I have known him as manager and speculator in variety enterprises over thirty years. Always an honest plodder, faithful to his proprietors, and a friend to the performers, but unlucky.—Yours faithfully,

J. W. ROWLEY.

Empire, Cardiff, June 6.

MR A. C. LILLY will take out that strong military drama *Drummed Out* on a tour lasting for thirty-six weeks from Aug 8 next.

CRICKET.

MISS LILLIE BELDING'S LADIES XI. v. HARRY BELDING'S GENTS. XI.

Played near Clifton Downs on Monday evening, May 30. The gentlemen batted with broomsticks. Miss Winifred Bradley bowled well for the ladies XI. Scores:—

Miss Lillie Belding's Ladies Team.—Miss E. Francis, b H. Belding, 0; Miss F. Maguire, b H. Belding, 3; Miss I. Bowman, b H. Belding, 0; Miss M. Fisher, c Cox, b H. Belding, 11; Miss L. Belding (captain), b H. Belding, 0; Miss W. Bradley, b Aubrey, 4; Miss C. Fowler, b H. Belding, 7; Miss N. Bailey, b H. Belding, 0; Miss K. Montgomery, b Aubrey, 16; Miss E Bowman, b H. Belding, 2; Miss A. Bernard, b H. Belding, 0; total, 43

Harry Belding's Gents XI.—F. Thorne, b Miss Bradley, 5; H. Hare, b Miss Bradley, 2; J. Lewis, b Miss Bradley, 9; H. Belding (captain), b Miss Bradley, 24; S. Carter, b Miss Fowler, 13; E. Belding, b Miss Bradley, 7; H. Slade, b Miss Bradley, 0; A. Cox, b Miss Bradley, 1; T. Palmer, b Miss Bradley, 4; H. Clements, b Miss Bradley, 0; A. E. Bailey, b Miss Bradley, 3; total, 68.

MISS LILLIE BELDING'S LADIES ATHLETIC TEAM V. COTHAM AND REDLAND LADIES ATHLETIC CLUB.

Played near Clifton Downs, on June 4 Scores:—

Miss Lillie Belding's Ladies Athletic Team—Miss A. Bernard, b Miss Bradley, 15; Miss L. Clayton, b Miss Bradley, 0; Miss K Elvin, b Miss Bradley, 0; Miss I Bowman, b Miss Bradley, 2; Miss E. Bowman, c Miss Fisher, b Miss Bradley, 5; Miss L. Belding (captain), b Miss Bradley, 9; Miss L. Carter, b Miss Montgomery, 4; Miss E. Francis, run out, 1; Miss C. Fowler, b Miss Bradley, 10; Miss M. Stuart, b Miss Bradley, 0; Miss N. Bailey, b Miss Bradley, 6; total, 52.

Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club.—Miss E. Lewis (Cheltenham), b Miss Fowler, 8; Miss F. Hooper, b Miss Fowler, 1; Miss L. Coles, b Miss Fowler, 0; Miss K. Montgomery (captain), b Miss Fowler, 14; Miss M. Fisher, run out, 22; Miss L. Norris, b Miss Fowler, 4; Miss A. Gibbs, b Miss Belding, 1; Miss W. Bradley, b Miss Fowler, 7; Miss M. Burgess, b Miss Fowler, 0; Miss N Lawrence, b Miss Belding, 2; Miss M. Hamilton, b Miss Fowler, 0; total 59.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. C.C. v. MUSIC HALLS C.C.

Played on Clifton Downs on June 4 Scores:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. C.C.—H. Hare (captain), b Nicholls, 7; T. Smith, b O'Connor, 0; J Aubrey, b O'Connor, 4; E Bowman, b Nicholls, 1; T. Palmer, l b w, b O'Connor, 3; H Belding, run out, 15; H. Clements, b Nicholls, 6; L Clayton, c and b Nicholls, 0; A. E. Bailey, b O'Connor, 26; H. Slade, not out, 3; S. Carter, b O'Connor, 1; extras, 5; total, 71.

Music Halls C.C.—J. Stuart (captain), b Belding, 0; F. Hansford, b Belding, 0; T. Neagle, b Belding, 9; F. Arni, b Hare, 1; J. Lacey, b Belding, 5; F. Boyce, b Belding, 0; W. Hinder, b Belding, 3; H. C. Douglas, run out, 2; D O'Connor, c Bailey, b Hare, 6; F. B. Nicholls, b Belding, 17; P. Reardon, not out, 4; extras, 10; total, 57.

THESPIDS C C. v. EMERITI C.C.

Played at West London, June 5. Scores:—

Emeriti—J. L. Davidson, b Groves, 62; E. Bisgood, b Groves, 9; F. S. Meame, b Egerton, 0; C. S. Deane, not out, 28; E. N. Bisgood, l b w, b Egerton, 0; W. E Carlisle, run out, 2; B. L Bisgood, b Egerton, 50; A E. Canfers, b Egerton, 0; W. M. Payne, b Egerton, 0; J. L. Bilton, c Groves, b Cameron, 7; G. C. Bisgood, b Egerton, 8; extras, 19; total, 185.

Thespids.—E. Cameron, b Meame, 6; Sydenham Dixon, b Cumming, 0; V. O'Connor, c Cumming, b Canfers, 117; G. Groves, c and b Meame, 25; B. Egerton, b Meame, 2; E. Payne, b G. Bisgood, 11; C. Aldred, c and b G. Bisgood, 6; P. Darwin, c and b Carlisle, 2; Hughes, st Bisgood, b Meame, 16; S. Harcourt, b Payne, 0; Golding, not out, 0; extras, 15; total, 200.

THESPIDS V. KINGSTON HILL.

Played at Acton, Tuesday, June 7th. Scores:—

Thespids.—Leslie Holland, c Carver, b Slaughter, 13; L. Lockner, c Walker, b Gardener, 25; V. O'Connor, b Carver, 9; D. Hassard, run out, 26; C. A. Smith, c Hughes, b Cameron, 25; H Mills, b Slaughter, 0; A. S. Homewood, l b w, b Slaughter, 0; S. Mills, c Worcester, b Slaughter, 1; B. Egerton, c and b Slaughter, 0; H. Nye-Chart, c Hughes, b Cameron, 6; W. A. Metcalfe, b Cameron, 4; P. Darwin, not out, 11; extras, 11; total, 128.

Kingston Hill:—Slaughter, b O'Connor, 8; Gardener, c Holland, b Egerton, 22; Forrester, b O'Connor, 13; Cameron, c Holland, b Egerton, 8; H. Gardener, b Egerton, 4; H. Carver, b Holland, 1; Payne, c Smith, b Egerton, 1; Worcester, c Darwin, b Holland, 0; Walker, b Holland, 0; Hughes, b Holland, 7; N. Blount, c Holland, b Metcalfe, 0; S. Blount, not out, 7; extras, 4; total, 81. O'Connor took two wickets for 29 runs; Holland, four for 13; Egerton, four for 6; and Metcalfe, one for 0.

BARNARD'S, GREENWICH.

Messrs Barnard and their skilful manager, Mr Bert Dent, present a most attractive programme here this week, and are doing excellent business. After the overture, "La Soveranne," had been pleasingly rendered on Monday by Mr Archie Howells and his well-selected orchestra Miss Carmen Gray delighted the audience with her vocalism. The Two Clarkes followed, and won general admiration by their skill and agility as gymnasts and in their speciality act on the rolling globe. Next came a capital extra turn, supplied by Mr J. P. Boston, who danced well and sang two good songs. Very welcome were the Knick-Knacks, society entertainers, who contributed a bright performance consisting of clever dances and songs. Miss Mignon Tremaine won hearty applause by her rendering of "She's his Sunday girl" and "Walking home with Angelina." The Clydes in their humorous duologue, *A Musical Rehearsal*, introduced a mandoline duet and a banjo duet, and sang a capital coon ditty, "For your own sweet sake." Miss Violet Choice charmed all with "Sailing" and "When I grow up," and by her pretty and graceful dancing. Three attractive young ladies, named Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, and styled the Singing Boxmakers, made a great success, and were loudly encored. Their entertainment consisted of a ballad, "Carmina," followed by a Dutch number and "Hear dem Bells." The three artists brought their pleasing turn to a conclusion by making a number of boxes, which they threw among the audience. A special feature of the evening's entertainment was the spectacle entitled *The Relief of Pekin*, supported by 100 local children, admirably trained by Mr J. Clarke. This item consisted of two scenes representing Prince Tuan's Palace at Tientsin and Outside Pekin, and the production reflected the greatest credit on Mr Clarke, by whom it was produced and arranged. Miss Ivy Dawn, a talented vocalist, sang delightfully The performance was brought to a close with Ruffel's Imperial Bioscope, by which was exhibited many new and interesting views, including one of a coal-mine disaster.

AT the Bordesley Palace, Birmingham, Tom Hearne's eccentric juggling evokes loud and prolonged applause. Ganty displays all his old claims on popularity. Some exceedingly smart head and hand balancing is done by the Wille Brothers. The Automatos, in their sketch *Fun in a Museum*, are amusing. Abel and Walsh, comedians; the Sisters Jonghmann, vocalists; Louise Willis, comedienne; Caselli and James, banjoists; Madge May, comedienne; and Gertrella, gymnast, are all excellent.

MR SID BANDON is in town after six months' tour with Mr Tom Barrasford and others.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 15.)

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldon Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder.—Messrs Carson and Granville's company in *The Heart of a Hero* is here. The company is a strong one, and meets with much approval. As the hero, Jem Resdale, Mr Fred W. Goddard plays with great earnestness and ability; Wilfred Marl is capitally presented by Mr Charles E. Johnson; Mr P. G. Beresford as Dave Pritchard is good; and the same may be said of Mr G. B. Wright's Jack Collinson. Miss Beatrice Hudson's Mrs Ryder is worthily presented; Miss Cissy St. Elmo's Nell Resdale is very creditable; and Miss Laurie Pardy's May Ryder is noteworthy. The comic business, in the hands of Mr Allen Carruthers (Timothy Heighno) and Miss Ida Mackay (Susie Slack), is admirable.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. Batty; Manager, Mr W. Batty.—Humour is the leading feature of the programme here. As top turn we have the funny sketch *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, played by the Ernestine Trio in a clever manner. Martin Conway in his quaint songs gets a warm welcome; Elsie Claire, soprano, sings acceptably; Bert Lytton, swell comique, has both dash and go; Edmunda, ventriloquist, introduces his merry family; the Five Foys do some smart work in their absurdity "The Excursion Depôt;" the Three Sisters Noma give a graceful trapeze turn; and Payne's pictures are both startling and new.

SUNDERLAND.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—The attraction here this week is Mr Fred Karno's company in the three-act musical farce *His Majesty's Guests*. There is a capital cast, the following artists being conspicuous:—Mr Dan Rolyat as Sergeant Lightning, Mr Frank Morton as Lord Easem, Mr E. De Vere as Mr Miffin, Mr L. Sterling as Mr Harry Miffin, Mr Gus Le Clerq as Bunker, Mr Hy. Richter as Mr Minks, Mr Chas. Griffiths as Josiah Giles, Mr Harry Howe as Selina, and Miss Jessamine Newcome as Lady Maude Easem.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Brothers; Acting-Manager, Mr George V. Wybrow; Secretary, Mr Alfred Browne.—The principal turn this week is provided by Leonard Barry, comedian, in *The Moucher's Walk*. The Two Bostons, in a laughable act entitled "The Novelty Showman," give a capital entertainment. Laffan B. Jolly, laughing comedian; Wilson Hallett, mimic; Delmar and Van Dane, in the sketch *Songs, Plays, and Players*; Nellie Farrel; Arthur Pearl, eccentric comedian; Moretti and Alice, with their wonderful performing dog; and Victoria Lytton, comedienne, also contribute.

TON-Y-PANDY.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Counsell.—Mr Leslie Vyner's company is here in *Saved from the Sea*. Mr Leonard Robson as Dan Ellington is an assured success. The villainous Peter Scalcher and Richard Fenton are well delineated by Messrs S. C. Kearns and W. A. Atifield respectively. Mr H. M. Vernon is well suited as Billy Snooks. In the rôle of Nancy Ellington Miss F. Russel-Spiers appears to advantage, and Miss Dora Condor contributes largely to the success of the piece as Polly Blake.

TYNEMOUTH.

PALACE-BY-THE-SEA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Graham; Musical Director and Assistant Manager, Herr Arnold Blomé.—This popular place of amusement was crowded on Monday, the star attraction being the Royal Court Orchestra, under the bâton of Herr Arnold Blome, whose well-rendered selections continue to please. Coram, ventriloquist, is well received; the Stuart Ladies' Quartet, in a novel singing and dancing act, seemed to be very much to the taste of the audience; Hermann Urquhart, juggler, is neat and clever; and other capital turns were submitted by Miss Bertha Scholefield, soprano, and Mr W. Peacock, basso.

WAKEFIELD.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Company.—Mr Sydney T. Pease and company are here for a second week in *A Noble Outcast*. The part of Jerry the Tramp is well-sustained by Mr Pease; Mr Vincent as Biscoe ably impersonates Colonel Lee; Mr W. S Tindal is capable as James Blackburn; Mr Evan Roland is praiseworthy as Bill Adams. Miss Bessie Elma gives a pleasing portrayal of Nan; Miss Lilian Burns capably fills the rôle of Mrs. Lee; and Miss Lily Lloyd is admirable as Sadie. The drama is preceded by a farcical comedy, entitled *The Gentlemen in Black*, which is well received.

NEW PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Charles A. Barnett.—The Yorkshire Mill Lasses (Misses Mona and Gladys Wells) possess excellent voices, and win hearty applause; Zasma contributes a smart gymnastic turn; Miss Flo Carlow, comedienne, sings well; Capt. Devereux introduces a troupe of clever dogs; Miss Ethel Payne, ballad vocalist, wins applause; and Margot, coon vocalist; Arthur Cheviot, comedian; and Herbert Madden, comedian, also appear.

WALSALL.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—A visit is being paid here by Mr and Mrs F. G. Kimberley's company with *A Fight for Life*. Mr Ellerslie Pyne gives a capital embodiment of Count Adrian; Jean Cardell finds an able exponent in Mr Henry Hall; Mr Harry Lyndon is well placed as Carlos Cardell; Mr Tom Lisbourne is an amusing Dan Murphy; Mr James Hunt does well as Miser Ferrand; great ability is displayed by Miss Clara Santley as La Cardell; and Miss Gracie Jones is a charming Marie.

WEDNESBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr W. J. Cranston.—Mr Geo. Steel and company opened here on Monday evening in the Siberian drama *Called Back*. Mr Geo. Steel as Gilbert Vaughan and Mr Villiers Stanley as Paolo Macari do excellent work. Dr. Ceneri is well played by Mr Ernest Keand, and as Petroff Mr Tom Lindsay scores successfully. Mr Ernest Regent as Harold Kenyon proves himself a capable artiste. The rôle of Anthony Marsh is capitally portrayed by Mr Fred Fosco. Miss Lily Winter does well as Pauline Marsh, and as Edith Vaughan Miss Lizzie Morley is seen to advantage. Well-merited applause is accorded Miss Kate Bruce for her able embodiment of Priscilla Drew. On Thursday and Friday *The Two Orphans of Paris* was played.

WEST HARTLEPOOL

GRAND.—General Manager (for Mrs Weldon Watts), Mr Fred Conneaux.—At this theatre this week Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's No. 1 company is attracting large houses with the melodrama, *The Beautiful Fiend*, which is full of sensational incidents and lively scenes. The title-rôle is in the hands of Miss Miriam Lewis, and is interpreted in a manner which makes the character truly life-like. Mr Harold B. Lewis as Sergius Strogoff and Miss Irene Munroe sustain the heroic parts in admirable style, carrying the sympathies of the house from start to finish. Mr Montagu Beaudyn is also a splendid artist, and the rôle of Ivan Paulovitch, which is entrusted to him, could not be in safer hands. Mr A. G. Polson-Turner is excellent as Count Fedor Karateff. Mr Charles Kean, Mrs Robertson Foulis, and Miss Annie Clunn each score with their humour, which appealed to all, and throughout the drama is exceedingly well staged.

WALTHAMSTOW.

PALACE.—Managing Director, Mr G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Slater.—The programme at this popular place of amusement for the prent week is well stocked with interesting and attractive items. Mr Ernest Sefton is a comedian with a quaint and taking style; Professor Dunning is one of the best ventriloquists we have had here for some time; the coloured tenor, Mr W. H. Downes, sings with telling effect; and a really first-rate turn is supplied by the Five Bogannys. Miss Bertha Winder gives her clever exhibition of clog-dancing; Wal Pink and company appear successfully in an amusing farcical episode entitled *Peggy*. The Four Figaros are seen to great advantage in their pretty scena *Ten Minutes on the Continent*. Khan and Khan give a clever display of modern magic; and Cliffe Berzac's Circus is smart, the antics of the beautiful ponies giving evidence of most careful training, while the doings of the unconquerable donkey, Kruger, excite unbounded laughter.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Bull.—Seymour Hicks and Cecil Raleigh's stirring drama *Sporting Life* is being presented here by Mr R. A. Beaton's company. Lord Woodstock is played in dashing style by Mr Hilliard Vox; Mr L. Du Cane does well as Sir Charles Braybourne; Mr Ralph Lynn is effective as the Hon. Dudley Stanhope; Mr James Dunlop is satisfactory as General Molineaux; and Mr Edwin Wilde is a capital Isidore Andreade. Mr Edwin Ferguson is a striking De Cartaret, and Olive is well played by Miss Lillian Herries.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs A. Milton, W. Johnson, and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—After a rather lengthy absence Mr Harry Starr is making a welcome reappearance here this week in the musical comedy-drama *Carl the Clockmaker*. Mr Starr still retains his popularity, and on Monday he gave a finished interpretation of the title-rôle. Miss Ethel Danbury is again a charming Lena, and Messrs Richard Harris, C. Cabe, William Miller, James Turner, Conrad Clerke, Angus Alexander, and Miss Rita Rosslyn complete a good cast.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs A. Milton, W. Johnson, and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr F. Willmot.—Another capital list of turns is here this week, and those clever comedians Sanford and Lyons score a big success; Joe Barrett and Louis Anastasie depict cleverly the French and English styles of fighting; Edith Blanche is a charming comedienne; the Three Gregsons in an absurdity win favour; and the Hamiltons, speciality artistes, James Curry, comedian, together with the Bioscope, exhibiting pretty pictures, complete a good programme.

WHITEHAVEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Clark.—Miss Adria Hill's and Robert Ayrton's company is engaged here, in *The Price of Pleasure*. Mr R. Ayrton appears successfully as Gilbert Thompson, and Mr Chas. Grant is good as Sir Jeames Featherstone. Mr Chas. A. Preece is popular as Tatters, and Miss Adria Hill is well cast as Alice Rivers. Other characters are ably sustained, and the scenery is good.

WREXHAM.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr Herbert Nicholls.—This week the following have delighted visitors here:—Mdlle. Rosella, a daring trapeze artiste; the Rushforths, in songs illustrated; Leo, a smart ventriloquist; Ethel Rexford and Gerald Hunt, in an up-to-date scena *A Girl from Mobile*; Les Allesors, comedy gymnasts; and Dale and D'Argan.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr W. Payne.—A most delightful entertainment is that given this week by the Willow Pattern Serenaders. On Monday their well-chosen and varied programme was greatly appreciated. Miss Amy Brook was loudly applauded for her singing of "Never go to sea on a Friday"; Miss Zoe Styles was heard to advantage in her song "Little yellow bird;" Mr Arthur Chenery's humorous song, "Mr Pot," provoked much laughter; and Mr E. Lingard Pike deserves eulogy for his rendering of "Love, the Rover." An exceedingly clever sketch, entitled *Youth to Age*, was admirably interpreted by Miss Brook and Mr Chenery.

WIGAN.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick.—Claude Ginnett's *Rejected Remounts*, introducing four specially trained horses and five artistes, give some fine equestrian performances, and open riding competitions take place each evening for substantial prizes. Mr and Mrs Clifford Bronte, in the comedy duologue *Saucy Maude*, are very diverting. Alicia Mayne, Australian songstress; Fred M'Arthur, dialect mimic; and Fred Neiman, ventriloquist, are capital entertainers. The Brothers Durant, in their sensational air-ship act; T. C. Callaghan, character comedian; Florrie St. Clair, comedienne and dancer; and Dora Greve, vocalist, complete an excellent list of artistes.

WINDSOR.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Governing Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr Bert Nicholson.—The Windsor people have been offered a rare treat this week by the presentation at the Theatre Royal, by Mr Henry Hare's company, of the musical farce *The Girl from Chicago*. Mr Buckstone Clair's Judge Ananias Hussel is excellent; Mr W. C. Brand as Hussel's clerk, Billy M'Guffin, is versatile and exceedingly clever; the General Boomer (a Chicago millionaire) of Mr Henry Hare is a natural and robust impersonation; Mr Douglas Vigors presents a dude, Percy Montgomery, with elegance and vraisemblance; and Mr Clarence Ibbotson displays irresistible humour as Brother Obadiah Caccles. Miss Madelin Du Val acts the rôle of Flora Bloomer with rare charm, skill, and vivacity; Miss Lucy Beaumont is highly diverting as Caccles' housekeeper; while the Lucretia Flatfoot of Miss Nelly Vicott is certainly a most original conception, rendered with remarkable ability and spirit. The Daffodils are delightfully dainty dancers.

WORCESTER.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; General Manager, Mr Douglas C. Phelps; Assistant-Manager, Mr Albert J. Lewis.—Instead of closing for several weeks in the summer, as has been customary at this house, the lessee has arranged to give a series of plays by a stock company, which made its first appearance last Monday in the naval and military drama entitled *The Union Jack*. At the head of the combination is Mr Douglas C. Phelps, whose impersonation of the leading character, Jack Medway, for over 500 occasions ensured a most meritorious representation of the naval hero. Miss Grace Heywood was pleasing and pathetic as the injured heroine; Miss Lallah Davies was excellent as Ethel Arden, the other ladies appearing being Miss M. Stanley Burt as Ivy Arden, Miss G. Drakeworth as Widow Pippin, and Mrs Kitty Russell. Mr James Willard gave a clever rendering of the part of Sir Philip Yorke; Mr Douglas Gerrard as Captain Morton and Mr Harry Claude as Lieut. Stanley were both very good; the humorous element was well sustained by Mr Walter Dale, whose songs as Peter Fly were much appreciated, and Mr F. G. Evison (Tom Chuckle); Mr H. Forde, Mr H. Sydney, Mr B. Roller, and Mr A. Kirke filling the remaining parts.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr Fred Benton and Mr Fred J. Little; Business-Manager, Mr Walter Bellian.—This week the attraction here is *The London Fireman*, which is being produced by Messrs Garside, Knowles, and Ludlow's company.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Barnard; General Manager, Mr W. H. Lennon.—A good bill here this week includes the Max Wesseley Troupe, who perform some clever juggling feats; the Gladenbecks, clever hand balancers and ring performers; the New York Quartet, vocalists and dancers; J. P. Dane, comedian; Alber and Amber, jugglers; Billy Hobbs, coon vocalist; the Donatos; and Petram's electric fantoches.

YORK.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr J. H. Barrow.—*Because I Love You* is here again, played by a company under the direction of Mr Frank Stephens.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr Sidney Brook.—Miss Queenie Leighton heads the bill this week. The efforts of this accomplished lady meet with hearty approval. Lava is an equilibrist of the utmost merit, his performance being particularly smart. Ida Kessanly's Troupe of fox terriers is undoubtedly one of the best of its kind travelling. Hoppitt, Tony, and Terry, with their donkeys, create much fun, as do also the Two Altons on the triple bars. Forest and King, eccentric dancers; Little Cliff, comedian; and Gerald Mount complete the list.

INSURING AN ELEPHANT.

In the Court of King's Bench, on the 3rd inst., before Mr Justice Darling and a common jury, the action was resumed by Mr Frank Charles Bostock, known as "the animal king," against Mr Frederick England, insurance broker, to recover £150 balance of insurance on the elephant "Jingo," which was lost at sea. Defendant admitted liability, but counter-claimed for out-of-pocket expenses and remuneration for forming several syndicates to run "Topsy Turvy" railways at Blackpool and other places of holiday resort. Plaintiff held the patents of the railways. Defendant also counter-claimed salaries as manager of the Crystal Palace Syndicate and the Blackpool Syndicate.

Mr Clavell Salter, K.C., and Mr R. J. Drake were for the plaintiff; Mr Wallace, K.C., and Mr Brook Little represented defendant.

In reply to the learned Judge, Mr Salter said his reply to the counterclaim was that it had been agreed that defendant should be paid for his services in large amounts of shares if the syndicates were successful. The onus was on the defence to prove the counterclaim, and defendant gave evidence in support of it. In cross-examination defendant said he did insurance business with Mr Bostock and his brother and Mr R. Fossett, jun., to the amount of nearly £50,000, the premiums amounting to £1,100. Witness transacted all his business at his flat in Hampstead. He insured Consul in addition to Jingo.

Mr Justice Darling—Who was Consul?

Mr Salter—He was a chimpanzee of extraordinary attainments. His health was a matter of national concern, and he had a body physician, who travelled with him.

Witness—I do not know whether the attendant was a body physician, but he was with the show.

Mr Frank Charles Bostock said he was the proprietor of a menagerie, and became acquainted with Mr England in 1903 in connection with insurance on animals. The "Topsy-Turvy" railway was afterwards mentioned, but there was no arrangement to pay Mr England remuneration and expenses with respect to the railway.

The jury found a verdict in favour of the plaintiff.

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OF THE

KING OF THE WIRE.

PRESS OPINIONS.

THE HIPPODROME.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, May 31, 1904.

Señor Juan A. Caicedo, who not merely turns somersaults on the tight-rope in traditional Blondinesque dress, but encumbers himself with top-boots and spurs to add difficulty and sensation to his feats.

STANDARD, May 31, 1904.

Juan A. Caicedo, the champion high wire-walker, gives a display which is little short of marvellous. He appears to be able to do anything on his wire, and to be almost as much at home as on *terra firma*. He turns somersaults with and without a balancing-pole, and finally does a backward fling while wearing top-boots and spurs.

MORNING ADVERTISER, May 31, 1904.

Juan Caicedo, the high wire-walker, was one of the novelties introduced by the management last night, and for daring and sensation he ranks with anything in the same category yet seen at the Hippodrome. The performer treads a wire at a height of 30ft. from the arena, and, attired as a Spanish grandee with top-boots and spurs, he turns somersaults. The feat is one of remarkable daring and skill.

PRESS OPINIONS.

PRESS OPINIONS.

THE HIPPODROME.

THE ERA, June 4.

Several new and attractive items have been introduced into the programme at the Hippodrome this week, and the enterprise displayed by the management is having its merited reward in crowded and delighted audiences. One of the novelties is the remarkable performance of Juan Caicedo on a wire which is placed at a height of 30ft. from the arena. Armed with his balancing pole the clever Spaniard gracefully turns somersaults and regains his normal position with apparent ease. Putting on top-boots, to which are attached spurs, he repeats the performance, also mounting a chair on the wire. The daring and skill displayed by Caicedo evoke some of the loudest applause heard during the whole entertainment. Caicedo is indeed a marvel of cultured activity and graceful energy. Every movement, every attitude is distinguished by the most astonishing accuracy and ease. Caicedo's extraordinary achievements are intensely admired, and the enthusiasm of the audience finds vent in demonstrations of delight which eloquently express the feelings evoked by his remarkable performance.

GLOBE, May 31, 1904.

Among the other attractions is the renowned Caicedo, who not only walks on the wire at the height of thirty feet, but turns somersaults in the air attired as a Spanish grandee, with top boots and spurs.

PRESS OPINIONS.

THERE IS ONLY ONE PLACE IN THE BILLS FOR THIS MARVELLOUS ACT—THE TOP.

THERE IS ONLY ONE PLACE IN THE BILLS FOR THIS MARVELLOUS ACT—THE TOP.

A FEW VACANT DATES AFTER JULY 25.

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London Representative, Mr J. A. E. MALONE, Daly's T.

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Silence polite negative.
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Entire new staff in front of curtain and behind.
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Moody-Manners Opera,
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"Quality Street,"
"Sign of the Cross,"
"Florodora,"
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Special Production.

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(Musical Companies preferred.)
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Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 31,
Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12.
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Vacant, July 25, Dec 19, 26, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
June 27, Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 31,
Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 5, 12, and Christmas.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Vacant July 4 Sept. 19, 26,
Oct. 10, 31 (Race Week), Nov. 21, Dec 12, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Company, for June 27,
County Theatre, Reading.
Wire, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Company for Aug. 22.
County Theatre, Reading.
Apply, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading

MELVILLE'S THEATRES and COMPANIES.
WANTED, Important Attractions, for
STANDARD THEATRE,
July 4, 25.
TERRISS THEATRE,
July 18.
METROPOLE THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM,
Aug. 22, 29, and Sept. 19, 26.
Address, WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E

WANTED, Wanted, Companies for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
Vacant Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
Extensive Alterations are now being made.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Vacant Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
All Arrangements for Staff complete.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Extensive Alterations have been made to this Theatre. Vacant Aug. 18 (Cricket Week), Aug. 25, Sept. 8, onwards, with exceptions (Three Nights only).
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Musical Comedy Aug. 8, December, onwards. Address, HERBERT VERE.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. PAYNE SEDDON.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Sept. 19, Oct. 10, 24, Jan. 2 and 16.
Return Fare, First Class and Saloon, from Glasgow, 17s. 6d. Return from Liverpool, 16s.
Bookings include:—"The New Clown," "Chinese Honeymoon," Edward Terry, "A Message from Mars," "A Country Girl," "Monsieur Beaucaire," "Fatal Wedding," Hoggan-Armadale, F. R. Benson, Moody-Manners, &c.
W. PAYNE SEDDON,
Coombe Cottage, Holford, Bridgwater, Somerset.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK
(the Scottish Aldershot)
Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. PAYNE SEDDON.
WANTED, Companies, Sept 5, Oct. 3, Nov. 14. Last Three Days of each Week only.
10,000 Regulars and Volunteers will be stationed near Hawick during August and September.
Dumfries can be Booked in conjunction First Three Days.
W. PAYNE SEDDON,
Coombe Cottage, Holford, Bridgwater, Somerset.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for July 11 and 18.
Apply, Mr ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr E. MACKNIGHT;
Business-Manager, CHARLES E. HARDY.
WANTED, Companies, June 27, July 11, Aug. 15.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical Preferred,
July 11, 12, 13, Three Nights; 21, 22, 23, Three Nights
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

NEW THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
Lessee and Manager, J. BANNISTER HOWARD.
WANTED, Good Companies, Autumn and Spring. For further particulars see Provincial Theatre Advertisement.
J. BANNISTER HOWARD,
3, Bedford-street, Strand, London.

WANTED, for the Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness, First-class Attraction for July 25.
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow.

WANTED, for St. George's Theatre, Kendal, Aug. 1, Sept. 8, Oct. 6, Nov. 17th, and Pantomime or Musical Comedy Christmas. J. W. BUTLER, Manager.

STANLEY, DURHAM, ROYAL, Limited.
WANTED, Good Attraction, July 4, for the above Up-to-date Theatre; also open to treat for Pantomime, Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 9, or Feb. 6. Must be Big Production. Bertram Damer, Esq., please write re August Date. Address, MARK H. LINDON.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Good Companies, for Aug. 15, 22,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Good Musical Shows preferred;
also First-class Pantomime, January and February.
Address, letters only,
THOS SWINTON.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Victoria Theatre, Mansfield. Under New Management. Companies with Bookings write for confirmation. SECRETARY, 53, Grosvenor-park-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for June 27th, July 11th, 18th, and 25th. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY and RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Big Attractions, Aug 1, 22, Sept. 19, Chorley; also Aug. 15 (Big Holiday), 29, Radcliffe. Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, First-class No. 1 Companies at Theatre Royal, Chatham, Sept. 5, 12, and Oct. 31.
BARNARD, 10, Harborne-road, Birmingham.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
WANTED, for June 27,
Strong Dramatic Attraction.
Wire, MACNAGHTEN, Lincoln.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Aug. 1, Reopening Grand Theatre, Chorley.
Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

COMPANIES WANTED

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies

EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
Vacant, June 13, July 25, Sept. 26, Dec. 12, 19, onward.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant, July 18, Aug. 1, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, 12, 19.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant, Dec. 19, March 6, 13, onward.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant, July 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, Sept. 5, 12, 19.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Vacant, June 20, July 25, Dec. 19, 26, onward.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
Vacant, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 31, Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant, June 13, 20, July 4, 11, 18, 25, Sept. 5.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 14, onward.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
Vacant, Aug. 8, 15, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, onward.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant, Aug 1, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, onward.

All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON, Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

POOLE'S THEATRES, GLO'STER and SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, the Best Companies Only for the Theatre Royal, Gloucester, now One of the Prettiest, Cleanest, and smartest Theatres in the Empire. Electric Trams from all Parts. The Only Theatre in the City.
Opera House, Porth, the Largest and Most Successful in the District, now in the Full Tide of Success.
Opera House, Treherbert. Top of the Valley. Another fine Theatre, where everything before, behind, and outside is done well. Extensive building now going on directly opposite. The pits sunk, the coal found. Directly they start the Population doubles. Now good, then excellent.
Town Hall Theatre, Maesteg. Another coming Eldorado. More pits sunk, fine coal found. Hotels, business establishments, and streets rebuilt.
"The Christian" took at Maesteg, in three nights, in an off pay, £118, and in three nights at Treherbert, £130, and we mean to double these receipts. Only a few Autumn and Spring Dates left. Every inquiry solicited.
Theatre Royal, Pontypool, at present to Let on Share or Rental. Apply, for all Theatres,
C. W. POOLE, Wotton Lawn, Gloucester.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, Companies for the above Theatre, which will again pass into Mr Williams's hands after June 25, 1904, and will be Reopened under his Management on Monday, June 27.
Applications for Dates to be addressed for the present to
Mr C. F. WILLIAMS,
The Grand Theatre, Plymouth.
Vacant June 27, July 4, 18, 25, Aug 22.

Silence in all cases a courteous negative.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL,
LINCOLN.
WANTED, Good Attractions for Aug. 8 and 22, Dec. 5 and 26
Good Pantomime Wanted for January, 1905.
Address, FRANK KING.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Good Companies, July 18 and Aug. 15.
Must be new to Grimsby.
Terms and day-bill to J. H. CURRY, as above.
Three Days' silence a polite negative, pro. tem.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, First-class Companies for Aug. 22 and 29.
Address,
STANLEY ROGERS, 31, Bulmershe-road, Reading.

WANTED, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford, Companies Vacant June 27, and on; Big Attractions for Bank Holiday and the Autumn. Write (Share or Certainty for Recognised Musical Companies), JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Aug. 22.
Musical Preferred.
Only Vacant Date until May.
No Wires.
Address, LESTER COLLINGWOOD.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE, WIGAN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for Aug. 22 (Musical preferred).
Address, J. WORSWICK, Managing-Director.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 31, and Nov. 28, also First-class Pantomime, three or four weeks, Christmas.
Address, T. EDWARDES.

WANTED, High-class Companies, Musical preferred, Aug. 8, 19, Sept. 5, Oct. 3, 24, 31, Nov. 14, and on, in conjunction T. E., Hawick.
W. E. POTTS, Theatre Royal, Dumfries.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, owing to Transfer, Good Attraction, Musical preferred, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17, Dec. 5, 19, Feb. 6 and 20, onwards, Easter and May excepted. SIDNEY COOPER.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COX.

COMPANIES WANTED.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
Managing-Director, Mr R. C. BUCHANAN.

THE FINEST TOUR IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.
A FINANCIAL AND ECONOMICAL SUCCESS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.

GLASGOW.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.
LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE.
KIRKCALDY, KILMARNOCK, GREENOCK } At present in course of Construction. { KING'S THEATRE. KING'S THEATRE. NEW THEATRE.

All communications re Dates to R. C. BUCHANAN,
General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Telegraphic address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

WANTED, First-class Companies,
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS,
July 25 (?), Aug. 15, 29, Sept 8, 19.
GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE,
Oct. 24 and on.
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
Sept 26 (?), Oct. 3.
BROADWAY, NEW-CROSS,
Aug 8 (?).
GRAND, SWANSEA,
July 4 (?).
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN,
Vacant July 25 (?).
GRAND THEATRE, BOSCOMBE,
Aug. 29 (?), Oct. 10 (?) 17, 24.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.
Wire, "Lutanist, London."

WANTED, Companies, Boro' Theatre,
North Shields. Proprietor, ARTHUR JEFFERSON.
Ninth Year of Personal Local Management.

The Only Theatre Open in the Town.

Vacant June 5, 1905, various, onwards.
Last week, "Octoroon" (J. F. Elliston).
Close on £60 Friday and Saturday.

Contracts recently to hand:—"Fatal Wedding," "Actor's Romance," "Are You a Mason?" "Christian," Miss Go-Won-Go Mohawk, "His Majesty's Guests," "New Barmaid," "Royal Divorce," Pantomime "Goody Two Shoes," "Golden Ladder," and Moody-Manners.
Touring Managers please note.—The Boro is booked in conjunction with the Grand, Royal, Princess, and Metropole, Glasgow; Royal, Blyth; and the various Theatres controlled by the Scotland's Provincial Theatres Directorship, by which and whom (in all cases) any other Theatre in North Shields is barred.

Address, Ayton House.

WANTED, Companies, Boro' Theatre
North Shields (the only Theatre open in the Town)
July 11; also Theatre Royal, Blyth, Aug. 1, 8, 15.
Address, Ayton House, North Shields

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.

WANTED, High-class Attractions,
Sept. 25 (Three Nights), Oct. 3, and on.

Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN,
General Manager,
June 13, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

WANTED, Comedy or Musical Companies
Touring Scotland to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness.
Season Opens September. CAMERON BURGESS, Manager.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple,
Companies, Two Nights Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple, N. Devon.

WEYMOUTH.—OPERA HOUSE.

WANTED, Company, Three Nights commencing Aug 4, 15 and 25, Sept 8 and 12 (Three Nights); also Dates Oct and Nov. WALTER R. WALLIS.

VICTORIA HALL, HALIFAX.

WANTED, High-class Dramatic and Operatic Companies for August and Early Part of September. Fine Proscenium and other Stage Equipments. Seating accommodation 2,500. Population, radius of Six Miles, nearly 200,000. Apply, Secretary, Mr W. H. MITCHELL.

WANTED, Responsible Manager or Syndicate to Produce High-class Up-to-Date Pantomime, Christmas, 1904-5, at the Avenue Opera House, Sunderland. One of the Best Pantomime Towns in the Provinces. Productions for Past Fourteen Years have averaged Ten Weeks' Run.
Capitalists who can provide a Fully-equipped and Elaborate Production only asked to apply to
C. E. MACHIN, Avenue Opera House, Sunderland.

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Whitland.

WORKMEN'S HALL, MOUNTAIN ASH.
The Only Fully Licensed Hall in the Town. All Modern Improvements carried out in Stage and Dressing-room Accommodation, with a Splendid Electric Light and Gas Service. One of the Finest Halls in Wales.

WANTED, Known the Committee of Management are open to accept Engagements of Good Theatrical and Variety Companies, on Share or Rental Terms. Satisfactory references must be given.
For terms and Vacancies,
Apply to Mr WILLIAM JONES, Secretary,
the Only Authorised Person to accept Engagements in connection with this Hall

---

WANTED, Strong Play for Special Fortnight. Would not object to one unproduced.
Miss MAY, Simonside, South Shields.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

WANTED, Important Theatres,
Sept. 26, Nov. 7, 21.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 7, 14,
Dec. 5.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."

WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1, Oct. 3,
10, Nov. 7.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."

WANTED, Important Theatres
for Walter Melville's New Play,
Aug. 1 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 10, 31.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."

WANTED, Theatres, Oct 24, Nov.
14 (?), and on. Christmas Vacant.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, for "Her Forbidden Marriage,"
Fredk. Melville's Latest Production, June 20, in or near London; Sept. 5 and 12, and on.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."

WANTED, Important Theatre in or near
London, June 27,
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

WANTED, Weeks of July 18 and 25,
for this Powerful Attraction.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
Absolutely the Largest and most perfect Production of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Touring Great Britain.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 22,
Sept. 19, Oct 24, Nov. 14, Christmas Now Booking '05. U. HARRINGTON, Theatre Royal Hanley.

WANTED, Farewell Tour, "The Private Secretary" or "Jane," Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10, 31, Nov. 7, 14. Managers with above Dates write,
C. STAFFORD, O. H., Harrogate and Buxton, Three each.

WANTED, July 4 and 18,
"The Conscript."
MITCHELL and BELTON, Prince's, Accrington.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr BERT COOTE'S COMPANIES.
"THE FATAL WEDDING."
"THE FATAL WEDDING."
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

WANTED, First-class Theatres. A Few Autumn Dates only.

Aug. 15 (Suburban or South),

Aug. 29 (Midlands),

Sept. 26 (Midlands),

Oct. 3 (Suburban or South),

Oct. 24 (North),

Nov. 14 (South or West).

Nov 21 and 28 (Midlands),

Dec. 26 (South or Midlands).

All communications should be addressed to
CECIL BARTH, General Manager, Princess's T., London, W.

Mr CECIL BARTH'S COMPANY in
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."

WANTED, First-class Theatres,

July 25 (Suburban or Midlands),

Oct. 10 (Midlands),

Dec. 26 (Midlands or North),

April 24, 1905 (Suburban).

All communications, Princess's Theatre, London, W.

CARSON AND GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS.
"HEART OF A HERO."
"DRAMA OF LIFE."
"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."

WANTED, for Above Successful Attractions,
"Heart of a Hero," Aug. 1, 29, Oct. 10, 31; "Drama of Life," Aug. 1, Sept. 26, Nov. 28; "Defending His Honour," Aug. 29, Oct. 3, 17; "A Modern Adventuress," Nov. 14, Jan. 30. Managers are invited to forward Vacant Dates for above to
L. CARSON Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

HENRY SWINERD'S COMPANY,
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."

WANTED, June 20 and July 11.
Wire, To-day, J. W CORDINER, P. O. W. T., Grimsby; June 13, Theatre Royal, Smethwick.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."

WANTED, Theatres, 14, Christmas, Jan
2, 9, 30, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

MR LESLIE NORMAN'S COMPANY,
"A TRIP TO CHINATOWN."

WANTED, July 18, Aug 1 (?), and on, with exceptions. Largely increased Company, including Miss Harriet Fawn, Troupe of Dancers, &c. Really Magnificent Production. Refer C. F. Williams, Esq, Duncan Young, Esq, H. Oswald Redford, Esq, &c. Address, LESLIE NORMAN, T. R., Bournemouth.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL,"
by Henry Merriman.
The Latest Sensational Melodrama.
Big Success in Southampton this week.

WANTED, Sept, 5, 19,
Oct. 3, Onwards.
Address,
STANLEY HOPE, Grand Theatre, Swansea.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence," July 18 (between Leicester and Attercliffe), Aug. 1, Sept. 19, 26 Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24. C CLIFFORD, T.R., Birkenhead (Return).

"THE SEAL OF SILENCE." Fourth Year of Tour.

WANTED, June 20, 27, Aug 8, and a few Good Autumn Dates. Refer R. Ernest Liston, Esq., T. R., Leeds; C. P. Cooke, Esq., Grand, Nottingham. All comms., H. WYNNE, next week, P.O.W. Salford.

Mr DUDLEY CLINTON'S COMPANY,
including the Famous London Comedian,
Mr W. H. DENNY,
in Sir Francis Burnand's Evergreen Farcical Comedy,
"BETSY,"
and Mr A. W. Pinero's Delightful Comedy,
"DANDY DICK."
Mr W. H. Denny in his Original Part of Noah Topping.

WANTED, June 27 to Follow Harrogate,
and July 4, to Precede Royal, Dublin.
for Either of the Above Attractions.
Address,
this and next week, Opera House, Blackpool.

"A WOMAN'S REVENGE."

WANTED, June 20 (follow Crown, Peckham), and 27 for this Great Adelphi Drama. Only Vacant Dates till Autumn.
Wire, CHALMERS, Surrey Theatre; next, Crown, Peckham

"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
MR FRANK WILSON'S No. 1 COMPANY,
by Arrangement with
Mr Frank Curzon.

WANTED, Dates, Autumn Tour of above,
July 18 (Three Nights, to follow Harrogate),
Aug. 29, Sept. 5, and Dates on, with exceptions.
Aug. 1, Bank Holiday, Open,
First-class Offer.
JOSEPH WILSON,
Criterion Theatre, W.

MR and MRS F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANIES.
"A FIGHT FOR LIFE"

WANTED July 11 and 18, to follow Grand, Hull, and Precede Devonport; Aug. 29, North. Another success at Walsall refer W. H. Westwood, Esq. F. G. KIMBERLEY, The Hollies, Calf Heath, near Wolverhampton.

WANTED.—"Home, Sweet Home," by Frank Lindo.
The Greatest Domestic Drama of Modern Times.
Enthusiastically received everywhere.
"Home, Sweet Home." There is no place and no piece like it.—Vide Referee.
Vacant Aug. 1 and few late Autumn.
Address, FRANK LINDO Terriss, Rotherhithe.

"SHADOWS OF A GREAT CITY."

WANTED, Big Theatres only,
July 4, 11, 18, Aug. 1.
HARRY FOXWELL, Palace Theatre, Newcastle.
June 13, Theatre Royal, Blyth.

FRED STORAY and CO., in "RIP VAN WINKLE."

WANTED, Aug. 1 (South) and 8, Good Theatres, Seaside preferred; Sept 26, onwards. Everything carried. Apply, HAROLD ALLERTON, 28, Ranelagh-road, Pimlico, S.W.

BEAUDYN and LIVESEY'S COMPANIES.

WANTED, Good Theatres for the New Oriental Play, by G. A. De Gray,
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
All Beautiful New Scenery, by T. Holmes and T. P. Hall, Shakespeare, Liverpool. Everything Carried.
The Geisha Acrobatic Dancers. Vacant July 4, Aug 15, 22, Sept 5, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7, 14. T. R., Dewsbury.

MISS WINIFRED MAUDE'S COMPANY,
"THE SINS OF A CITY."

WANTED, First-Class Theatres,
Aug. 15, Oct. 17, and 24 (North).
"The Sins of a City."
Forty-eighth Week of Tour.
First-class Company.
Magnificent Printing, over Twenty Varieties.
Six Sets of Scenery Carried.
Address, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Theatres, June 20, F. A Scudamore's Successful Drama "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," and Miss Frances Delaval's London Company. Eleventh Month of Tour. June 27, to precede Dalston; and Aug. 1. Wire, FRANCES DELAVAL, To-day, Prince's, Portsmouth; next, Greenwich Theatre.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."

WANTED, Sept. 5, 26 (South),
November dates, and Christmas.
First-class Theatres only.
H. HOLLISTER,
Theatre Royal, Dover.

WANTED, July 4, 11, 18, for "A Life's Story;" Sept. 12, 16, "Marriage of Vengeance."
FRED BENTON, Theatre Royal, Darlington.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
and
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S

"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"

including
the Wonderful Child Actress,

Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,

in her great creation,

JUDY,
JUDY,
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JUDY,
JUDY,

as played by her
over 700 nights
in
London.

WANTED, July 11
(to precede Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield),

Aug 8
(to precede Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth),

Aug. 29,

Sept. 5, 12,

Oct. 10,

Nov. 14
(to follow Theatre Royal, Leeds).

Mr Kirk thanks Wm Bailey, Esq, for Return Date at West London Theatre;
Charles Elphinstone, Esq., for Return Contract at Hanley; also M. Montgomery, for Contract for Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

Now Booking 1905.

Refer to any of the following Bookings and Rebookings:—

Standard, London;
West London,
Surrey;
Terriss, Rotherhithe;
Royal, Stratford;
Brixton,
Queen's, Manchester;
Osborne, Manchester;
Junction, Manchester;
Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Opera House, St. Helens;
Royal Court, Wigan;
Prince of Wales's, Southampton;
Prince's, Bradford;
Theatre Royal, Leeds;
Queen's, Leeds;
Palace, Newcastle;
Grand, Blackpool;
Metropole, Glasgow;
Victoria, Burnley;
Metropole Birmingham;
Royal, Barnsley;
Prince's, Portsmouth
Prince's Theatre, Accrington;
Opera House, Wakefield;
Prince of Wales's, Grimsby;
Alexandra, Hull;
Alexandra, Sheffield.

General Manager,
G. CARLTON WALLACE,
Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

"WHAT A WOMAN DID."

WANTED, July 11 (follow West London),
July 18 (precede Theatre Royal, Stratford),
Aug. 15 (follow Theatre Royal, Huddersfield),
Aug. 29, and onwards, with exceptions.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR,
To-day, Theatre Royal, Barnsley; next, T. R., Leeds.

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?"
Now in Third Year of Successful Tour.

WANTED, Good Theatres, July 4, to follow
Alexandra Theatre, London;
Aug. 1, Aug. 1, Aug. 1, onwards, with exceptions.
CHARLES R. STONE, To-day, Opera House, Southport; next week, Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.

BERT WENTWORTH'S
Magnificent and Elaborate Reproduction of
"THAT WOMAN FROM FRANCE."
Superbly Dressed. Lavishly Mounted. Elaborate Scenery.
Miss Marie De Roos, in Title-rôle, strongly supported.

WANTED, Aug. 8 (follow Newcastle), 15,
Sept. 5, 12, Oct 3, and on, Christmas Week (Big Theatre), Feb 20 (precede Leicester) Bookings:—London, Liverpool, Manchester, Birkenhead, Leicester, Leeds, &c. BERT WENTWORTH, Rosedale, West Hartlepool.

MR LESLIE VYNER'S TOUR,
"SAVED FROM THE SEA."
Mr Leonard Robson and First-class Company.

WANTED, July, Aug. 15, Sept. 5 and 12
King's Theatre, Cardiff.

"THE BRAND OF CAIN."
New and Powerful Sensational Melodrama, by Miss Violet Sims
In Active Preparation for Immediate Production.
Abounds in Novel Situations, Incidents, and Sensations.

WANTED, First-class Theatre.
Address, Miss VIOLET SIMS, 41, Linden-gardens, Bayswater; or, Business Manager, Mr J. BANNISTER, 69, Kealake-road, Queen's-park, W.

"A MOTHER'S LOVE."

WANTED, June 20, between Gaiety Theatre, Leith, and Theatre Royal, Hull.
Wanted, June 20, Wanted, June 20,
also July 11, to follow Jarrow.

Wire for June 20,
FRED L CONNINGHAME,
this week, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow;
next week, Gaiety Theatre, Leith.

WANTED, Theatres. June 20, 27, July 11
Vacant. "Fiends of London."
Entire Production Carried.
Racehorse, Supers, Smart Agent.
Amphitheatre, Ramsgate (Return),
Next, Globe Theatre, Deal (Return).

"AT WAR WITH THE WORLD."

WANTED, June 20, July 11, 18, 25, Aug.
1, onwards.
Everything Reliable, Printing Always Ready.
GEO. LYTTLETON, O. H., Coventry. Next, M. T., Bootle.

"BIGAMY."

WANTED, Aug 22 and Sept. 12 for this New Production. FRED MOULE, Gaiety T., Burnley.

WANTED, Oct. 17 and Dec. 26 for
"The Life that Kills."
Address, FRED MOULE, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

"THE WEB OF FATE."

WANTED, Theatre, June 27th, July 4th,
On, with Exceptions. T. B. AUGENT, G, Walsall.

WANTED, Theatres for the Great Success
"Her Fatal Past." Nov. 7 (South), Nov. 21 (Mid.)
Another decided hit at Jarrow. Communications, WARD, P. T., Newcastle.

WANTED, Aug. 15 Oct. 17, Nov. 21, for
"Zaza."
Address, HALDANE CRICHTON, Theatre Royal, Aldershot.

MISS OSWALD'S "EAST LYNNE."

WANTED, June 27 (follow Grand, Middlesbrough), July 4 on. Record Houses with this Musical Version. Agent and Superb Pictorials.
HERBERT BARRS, Colosseum, Oldham.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
DOUGLAS BRUCE'S No. 1 COMPANY.

WANTED, Aug. 8, Sept. 26, and Oct. 10.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."

WANTED, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 17, 24, and Dec. 5.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

WANTED, Aug. 8, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, and Dates, 1905, for Important New Play.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
By Wilson Barrett. From Hall Caine's Novel.

WANTED, Oct. 10, Nov. 7, 14, and 28.
New Special Scenery and Effects.
Beautifully Mounted and Splendidly Played.
The scenery was beautiful, and the accessories correct to the smallest detail.—Liverpool Courier.
Fast Booking 1905.
Royalty Theatre, Morecambe, June 13.

"THE NEW CLOWN."

WANTED, First-class Theatres only.
July 25 and Aug. 1,
between Folkestone and Bristol.
July 25 and Aug. 1,
between Folkestone and Bristol.
July 25 and Aug. 1.
Absolutely First-class Production. Everything carried.
Address, HERBERT GRENVILLE.
10, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
The funniest Musical Comedy ever produced.
Everything Carried.
Splendid Scenic Effects.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 22
and 29, to follow Gloucester;
also Sept 26 and Oct. 3,
to follow Dewsbury.

FREDERICK PHILPOTT,
Broadstairs, Kent.

WANTED, June 27, to Precede Gaiety
Theatre, Dublin, and July 18, to follow Gaiety, Manchester; also Good Date for Aug. 1, and on,
with exceptions, for
"Trooper Hunt's Widow,"
including
Wilfred E. Shine as Widow Hunt,
Zoe Gilfillan as Jane Watson.
Produced with Enormous Success at Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.
Wire FRANK NELSON,
Opera House, Cheltenham.

"GIPSY JACK."

WANTED, Autumn Dates for the above
Popular Play. Can Play Two Pieces if necessary Waiting for Good Dates. £50 Gross Theatres need not apply. HENRY BEDFORD, 99, Halton-rd, London, N.

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S Celebrated Drama,
"RUGJES AND VAJABONDS"

WANTED, Aug. 1, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 19,
and on, with exceptions. Guaranteed one of the Finest Mounted and Best Advertised Productions on Tour.
HARRY ESDEN, Grand Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, for "Partners in Crime,"
July 11, to follow Farnworth.
Everything Carried. Everything New.
July 11. Aug. 1, and on.
LEWIS GILBERT,
Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

WANTED, for "A Faithful Friend,"
July 4, July 4.
Between Middlesbrough and London.
Refer E. Carpenter, Esq., Frank Macnaghten, Esq.
LEWIS GILBERT,
Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

"THE LONDON FIREMAN."

WANTED, July 4, 18, Aug 22, Sept. 12.
GARSIDE, Avenue Theatre, Kettering.

GUS. C. LIVESEY'S COMPANY.
"THE CRIMSON CLUB."

WANTED June 27, London or Midland,
Aug. 15, 22 (?), 29, Sept 19, 26 Oct. 10, and various on. An excellent show. Capital Plant of Printing.
GUS C. LIVESEY, West London.

"A LIFE AT STAKE."

WANTED, July 11, 18, 25,
Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (?),
Sept. 12 26 (Three Nights),
Oct. 3, various later.
JEROLD HEATHER, To-day, Paisley; Monday, Derby.

WANTED, Aug. 1, for "New Mephisto"
(by Geo. Dance), unexpectedly Vacant through sale of theatre. Address, W. H. KIRBY, care of CHAS. MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

THE NEW "SAPHO."

WANTED, June 20, June 20,
through misunderstanding.
Wire, Saturday. JAMES BELL,
Royal Hotel, Morecambe.
Monday, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
"THE LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."

WANTED, Theatres, with Large Stages,
capable of holding Three Tons of Magnificent Scenery and Two Cart Horses, for this Dramatic Novelty, Sept. 12 and onwards. Address, SANTS, T., Radcliffe.

THE OSMOND TEARLE REPERTOIRE.

WANTED, Good Theatre for July 25.
Only Vacant Date this Year.
Apply,
HERBERT J. MONTAGUE,
Royal Hotel, Buxton.

"THE ANARCHIST TERROR."

WANTED, June 20 (between Sunderland and Swansea). Only Vacant Date till Oct. 10
Wire, to-day, ESMOND 32, Lord Nelson-street, Liverpool. June 13, Theatre Royal, Sunderland (Return).

WANTED, for the Great Play,
"Honour Bright,"
Big and Important Theatres for August Bank Holiday Week. Also a few Vacant Dates in Sept., Oct., and Nov. Stupendous Production. Powerful Company. Special Scenery, Effects, Music, Songs, and Dances. Managers of Really Good Theatres apply to the Business Manager, H. C. CLEMENTS, 131, Peckham-rye, London, S.E.

"OUR BOYS," "CASTE," or Triple Bill.

WANTED, by Mr Charles Otley, June 20
(Suburbs or Coast), follow Crystal Palace, precede Grand, Fulham (Fourth Return Visit).
Also July 11, on.
13, Grove-hill-road, Denmark-hill, S.E.

WANTED, July 4, through Misunderstanding, for Augustus Geo. Lytton's Company, in the Great American Melodrama "A Hidden Crime." Three Complete Sets carried. Practical Fountain and Superb Cast. July 4, to follow Oldham
All communications re Dates to
HARRY LYONS, 25, Northampton-square, E.C.

ARTISTES WANTED.

THE DALLAS-BANDMANN OPERA COMPANY,
EASTERN TOUR.

WANTED, Principal Soprano to Play Nan,
"The Country Girl," and Catherine, in "The Duchess of Dantzig." Also Comedian, Sing and Dance well; combine Stage-Management. Leave England beginning of September. Apply, with photos., all particulars, and absolute lowest terms, to
HENRY DALLAS, Box 7,942, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Several Artistes for Two Weeks
at Queen's Theatre, Dublin, commencing July 4. Rehearse Wednesday Previous. Please state Actual Lowest Inclusive Terms or no Notice will be Taken. Those having Played Parts in "Colleen Bawn" and other Irish Dramas Preferred. Kindly state Plays and Parts. KENNEDY MILLER, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes, All Lines.
Particulars, photos., age, lowest terms (no personal interviews, letters only), LEONARD MORTIMER, King's Theatre, Hoxton, N.E.

ARTISTES WANTED.

CARSON and GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS.
"HEART OF A HERO."
"DRAMA OF LIFE."
"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."
"MODERN ADVENTURESS."

WANTED,—Artists in All Lines
Artists in All Lines
Artists in All Lines
Artists in All Lines
are invited to write in for Autumn.
Must mark envelopes special line of Business.
Full Particulars to
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

WANTED, for F. H De Quincey and Sime
Seruya's Tours, Classical Répertoire, Stage-Manager (Small Parts). Must know "Richelieu," "Corsican Brothers," "Garrick," &c. Possible other Vacancies. Miss Adelaide Kent write. Address, with photos., absolute lowest terms, references, and stamp for reply, HAROLD REYNER, Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

WANTED, for the Drama "Honour Bright" (to Rehearse July 1), Gentlemen for the following parts:—Heavy, Character (Rough), Juvenile Lead, and really Good Comedian (Sing and Dance). Write immediately, H. C. CLEMENTS, 131, Peckham-rye, London, S.E.

WANTED, Full Company, Gentlemen, Only
One Week, June 20, Suburban Theatre. Address, CHARLES HARTLEY (letters only), 1, Torrington-sq., W.C.

BEAUDYN and LIVESEY'S COMPANIES.

WANTED, Artistes, Various Lines. Long Engagements to Suitable Persons. Full Particulars, 11, Woodville, Leeds-road, Dewsbury.

WANTED, for Music Hall Sketch, Light
Baritone, Principal Boy and Girl (Sisters preferred) and Chambermaid. All must be Good Singers and Players on Banjo, Mandoline, or Guitar. Terms and photos Interviews by appointment only. R. HATTON, 9, Carlton-grove, Battersea, London.

Mr J. A. CAMPBELL and Mr G. FULTON'S
"A BID FOR FORTUNE" COMPANY.

WANTED, Short, Dapper Comedian, able to Sing well, with Good Répertoire, for Special Fortnight. Rehearse June 20, Leith. Address applications, with refs. and photos., to J. A. CAMPBELL, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

"DRUMMED OUT."

WANTED, for A. C Lilly's Fourth Tour,
Commencing Aug. 8, for Thirty-six Weeks, Juvenile Gentleman and Lady; also Boy and Girl (not under fourteen) must be Petite, Mother to accompany (also to assist in Wardrobe), and a Principal Baggage Man.
No Photos, no Stamps. Silence a negative.
Address, W. G. BLUNT (Manager),
22, Mansell-road, Acton, W.

WANTED, Known, Opportunity occurs for Amateur Lady to Play Small Part at West-End theatre. No previous experience necessary. Applicant must be young, of good appearance, and possess some ability. No premium. Small salary.
Address, Box 7 970, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, for Special Week, July, at Suburban Theatre, a Good Heavy Man. If suitable Autumn Engagement to follow. State experience and absolute lowest terms. EUGENE BERTRAM, 1, Gilmore-road, Lewisham, S.E.

"ON THE STROKE OF TWELVE."

WANTED, Heavy Man. Must Dress Well.
Photos., references, and absolute terms to
FRED J. LITTLE,
124, Albert-road, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Two Good Responsibles,
for Special Week at Dover.
Rehearse June 14.
Lowest terms and full particulars,
H. HOLLISTER,
Theatre Royal, Dover,

"SWISS EXPRESS" COMPANY.

WANTED, a First-class Quartette of Dancers to commence July 30th.
Address, with full particulars, photos, and terms, to
C. and F. BENAD,
17, Loat's-road, Clapham-park, S.W.

WANTED, Known, a Lady and a Gentleman wishing to adopt the Stage can be received into an Established Company of the highest repute. Thorough Tuition will be given. A Premium of £25 is required, and, when proficient, a Salary will be given. Box 7 960, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, First-class Tenor and Light Baritone Vocalist for Summer Season. Must have Up-to-Date selection of Good Songs. Terms, Photos, &c., to JIMMY MADDOCKS, Minstrels, Bray, Ireland.

WANTED, Light Baritone. One who is also Humorist or Instrumentalist preferred. Not Al Fresco. Box 7 936, care of "The Era"

WANTED, Two Gentlemen Amateurs with Good Voices, for Comedy with Music. Small Premium Returned in Salary. Responsible Management. Tour Booking Box 7 950 "The Era."

WANTED, Young and Smart Acrobatic Dancers. Permanent Engagement, Everything Found. 2, Oxford-house, 87, Great Tichfield-st., Oxford-st, W.

WANTED, One or Two other Double-handed Artistes for Bandstand. Must be Young and Smart. I thank former applicants, impossible answer all. MORGAN, 30, Richmond-gardens, Shepherd's-bush.

WANTED, at once, a Boy, about Fourteen
to Fifteen, for assisting on the Stage.
Everything found, Good Home.
Small Pocket-money Weekly.
Write or call at H. B,
154, Lambeth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement by Young Lady
in Music Hall Sketch. Exceptional Voice, Good Appearance, Experienced. Address, VOCALIST, 12, Faunce-street, Kennington.

WANTED, Known, High-class Baritone
and Violinist will accept short Seaside Engagement. Disengaged July 24. High-class business only.
69, High-road, Chiswick, London.

WANTED, by Tenor, Engagement, or
Advertiser could make business if tenor or baritone would join him. One knowledge piano preferred.
Box 7,944, "The Era" Office

WANTED, Engagement, by Two Brothers,
Tenor and Baritone, in good Quartette. Both Young and well trained. Together or separately.
Address, BEL CANTO, 35, Upper Bedford-place, W.C.

WANTED, Known, through unforeseen
circumstances, Tom Collins at Liberty for Summer Season. Good offers invited. Write or wire at once,
17, Osborne-terrace, Clapham-road.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

Mr Robert Arthur's Pantomimes.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen.
Voice Trial
every Tuesday,
Kennington Theatre, 11 0 a.m.

WANTED, Artistes Disengaged for London
Suburban Pantomime to send photos, terms, and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Artistes, Disengaged for Pantomime, to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Manager of First-class London Music Hall,
one with Experience of
Two-House a Night Preferred.
Apply,
Box 7,931, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, a Gentleman wishing to Learn Business Management can be Received into an Established High-class Company, and thoroughly Taught the same. A Premium will be required, and a Salary will be given. In the first instance, address, Box 7,961, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Smart Young Gent. to Learn Acting Management, London Theatre. Must give services; also Small Parts. No Premium. Address, R. COCHRANE, Wilmington House, Durand-gardens, S.W.

WANTED.—An Opportunity Occurs immediately for a Young Gentleman desirous of travelling to join High-class Novel Enterprise. Experience unnecessary, but Small Premium required, to be returned in Salary. State age and when at Liberty. Photo. H. KING, Castle Hotel, Wem, Sat.; P.O., Ironbridge, Salop, Monday and Tuesday.

WANTED, for a Well-established London Variety Agency, a First-class Representative.
Only men of smart appearance, energetic, and of good connection need apply,
stating age and previous experience in this line of business.
Address, W., Box 5, care of Willing's,
162, Piccadilly, London, W.

WANTED, First-class Advance Agent for Mr Chevalier's Recital Tour, commencing end of July. Letters only to C. INGLE, 7, Dorset-road, Ealing.

WANTED, First-class Scenic Artist, for a few Weeks.
Apply, C. ROBT PERKINS, Opera House, Jersey.

THE EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
WANTED, Wanted, Electrician
Apply, giving names and addresses for reference, with salary expected, to OSWALD STOLL, Esq., Empire, Cardiff.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Practical Man as Electrician. Must also understand working of Cinématograph.
Terms, age, references to
WALDON and BARNASFORD.

LORD GEORGE SANGER'S 1904 TOUR.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
an Experienced High Window Lithographer,
an Experienced High Window Lithographer,
an Experienced High Window Lithographer,
an Experienced High Window Lithographer,
an Experienced High Window Lithographer,
an Experienced High Window Lithographer.
Must be thoroughly Competent
with the Sticks,
and
make
himself
Generally
Useful.
Apply,
Arthur Martin,
Lord George Sanger's Agent,
Post-office,
Worcester.

WANTED, Smart Young Man, Song Book Selling and make himself useful. Alfresco Show. Wages and reference to Box 7,947, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, that W. C. Burns, one of the Few Successful Managers Specially Engaged by Frank Macnaghten, Esq., as General Manager, the Grand Varieties (Two Houses Nightly), Sheffield, just to work matters up a bit.
Five Weeks' Service, which has told just a little bit.
Verb. sap. to so called managers.

WANTED, Engagement as Variety Stage-Manager and Master Carpenter with First-class Reference. Speaking English, German, Dutch, and a little French. Now in continuous engagement since the opening of the Rembrandt Theater. HARRY VIROT, Rembrandt Theater, Amsterdam

WANTED (owing to expiration of Surrey Theatre Lease), Re-engagement as Acting-Manager Highest reference. CHAS. H. BOWMAKER, Acting-Manager, Surrey Theatre.

WANTED, Known, Electrical Engineer, Thoroughly Experienced, highest references, at Liberty as Electrician to Theatre in London or suburbs. ELECTRICIAN, 18, Bridge-av., Hammersmith, London, W.

WANTED, by Electrician, Situation. Can work Cinématograph. References.
Box 7,945, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Herbert Reed, Master Carpenter thanks John Donald, Esq., and London Musical Farce Co. for special Month. Offers invited for Summer. 37, Mayall-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Bill-Poster. Smart with brush. Six years' experience. Total abstainer. Age Twenty-three. Apply, R. M., 5, Kenilworth-avenue, Walthamstow, Essex

WANTED, Engagement, as Wardrobe Mistress, by Thoroughly Experienced Person. Can Design, Cut, Fit, and Make, or can Undertake Renovating and Making on own Premises. A Quantity of Costumes for sale suit "Cinderella." M., care of EASBY, 21, Green-street, Leicester-square.

WANTED, by a Lady, Thoroughly Domesticated, Good Needlewoman, Musical, a Position of Useful Companion to a Professional Lady. Capable, trustworthy; excellent references. Address, L. S., 13A, Lynn-street, Balham.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

"SWISS EXPRESS" COMPANY.
WANTED, a Musical Conductor, to commence July 30.
Address, with full particulars and terms, to
O. and F. RENAD,
17, Loat's-road, Clapham-park, S.W.

WANTED, Musical Director (Pianist), for a New Up-to-date Music Hall. Address lowest terms, &c., to F. KARNO, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, London, S.E. Mark Envelopes Musical Director.

WANTED, Musical Conductor (Good). Must be good Pianist
Autumn Tour, for Ben Greet Company.
W. REMOND,
16, Clifford's-inn, Fleet-street, E.C.

WANTED, Musical Director, for a Leading Variety Theatre.
Address, V. O. T., Box 566, Willings, 125, Strand.

WANTED, Leader (Violinist) Good, Open Monday.
Wire, J. PERRY, Happy Valley Minstrels, Llandudno.

WANTED, First Violin, Cornet, Trombone, Clarionet, to open Aug. 1.
Must be well Experienced in Dramatic Business.
Letters to be marked "Orchestra"
Address, SIDNEY BACON, Gateshead.

WANTED, First Violin, Viola, First Cornet, Trombone, to Open Aug. 1. Must be well Experienced in Variety Business.
Letters to be marked "Orchestra."
Address, SIDNEY BACON Gateshead.

WANTED, Violinists, 'Cellist for Seaside Ladies Orchestra. Long Season.
Box 7 957, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Violinist, Cornet, Flute, and Piccolo, &c., for Summer Season. Write, stating terms, age, photos, and all particulars, to JIMMY MADDOCKS Minstrels, Bray, Ireland. To open at once.

WANTED, Second Violin and Clarionet, for C. W. Poole's Myriorama.
To commence Monday, June 20.
Please state age and terms.
Apply, J. ROBERTS-JONES,
St. James's Hall, Plymouth.

WANTED, Good Cornet, Hall-by-Sea, Margate, Three Months, June 27. Write, terms references, MUSICAL DIRECTOR, 135, Oakhill-road, Putney.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Solo Cornet and Trombone, to Open July 4th. For particulars, apply, MUSICAL DIRECTOR, H. M. Theatre, Aberdeen, N.B.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, Solo Clarionet, Solo Trombone, and Euphonium, for July and August. Military. West coast. Must be good Players. State terms to DODSWORTH Bandmaster, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, Cornet (Lady), for the Autumn. Permanency. One who can Play Piano or another Instrument preferred. Nice appearance. State terms, experience (if any) photo., which will be returned. Address, MUSIC, 154 Great College-street, London, N.W.

WANTED, Cornet (Good), Twelve Weeks' Seaside Engt., commencing June 20, 30s weekly. Refs., to Miss KILDARE, Theatre Royal, Gloucester.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, for Few Weeks' Pitching. Permanency to follow to suitable Man (Young preferred) F. DRAKE, Borough Hall, Guildford.

WANTED, Solo Clarionet for Tenting Season, String Band. Open at Once.
Apply, A. LEADER, Post-office, Penzance.

WANTED, Euphonium, Trombone, Cornet, and Bass. Those who wrote last week write again, or wire, Biddall's Menagerie, Basingstoke, Saturday; Overton, Monday.

WANTED, Euphonium and Trombone and Second Cornet, Tenting. Join at once.
Address, H. SHELLEY, Circus, Lambourn Berks.

WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, French Horn and Flute, July 2 to Oct. 8. First-class Musicians only need apply Applications, with references, experience, and salary required for One and Two Performances daily, to J. H. HUDDLESTONE, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

Cambridgeshire Asylum, Fulbourn, near Cambridge.
WANTED, Male Attendant, Bombardon Player preferred.
Apply, stating age and height, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, at the Asylum.

WANTED, Harpist (First-class), Soloist, Second Horn, and Good Second Cornet (used to Transposing) for Seaside. Only reliable men of good appearance should apply. Offers to BANDMASTER, Royal Princes Parade, Bridlington.

WANTED, Flute and Piccolo, also Bass, with Violin or Viola Combined Good Lady or Gent. Vocalist. W. PFAFF, Bandmaster, Weston-s.-Mare Town Band.

WANTED, Flute, Piccolo and Euphonium, at once. Good. Terms, Shares. Apply, J. DUCHSCHERER, Prof. String Band, Exmouth.

WANTED, Pianist (Lady). State Age, Height, and Experience. Good opportunity to suitable person. Perm. Engagement. Box 7,909, "The Era"

WANTED, at once, Brilliant Pianist, with Good Voice; also First-class Robust Tenor. Must both be young, with good appearance. Send photos. and terms to WILL DRISCOLL, Pier Hotel, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Pianist (through Disappointment), Lady or Gent. Sing Preferred. Al Fresco, Fourteen Weeks, Scotland. Rehearse Wednesday next. Terms and Particulars, to-day, ALF LIVERICK, Colosseum, Oldham; after, P.O., Leven, Fife.

WANTED, Drummer (Smart), to Open Monday, June 27, 1904. Well up in effects for Twice Nightly Variety Work. Apply, PERCY B. BROADHEAD, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

LYRIC THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.
WANTED, Musicians for above, Permanent, open June 27. Letters only, with terms and references, to REILLIE, Bowness, Croydon.

WANTED, Ladies' Orchestra (Small), at once, for Twelve Weeks' Season at Seaside. Lowest terms, MANAGER, 39, Crowther-road, South Norwood.

WANTED, Lady Musicians, Clarionet, Oboe, Drums &c. Long Engagement. CONDUCTOR, Abbotsford, Blykeham-road, Bracebridge, Lincoln.

WANTED, Clever Boy Instrumentalists from Fourteen to Seventeen Years (short), for First-class Orchestra. Must read well. Violins, 'Cello, Double Bass, Flute, Piccolo, Oboe, Clarionet, Cornet, Drums. Good Salary, Long Engagements.
Apply, Box 7,968, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Musicians, Hippodrome, Llandudno. Piano Player, First Violin, Cornet, Double Bass Trombone, and Drums, to Open July 18. Address, J. CROCKETT, Manager, 12, Mill-lane, Blackburn, Lancs.

A. M. U. Musical Agency.
WANTED, Musicians anxious to secure the best terms before accepting Engagements in Scotland
to write to Mr J Bartley,
9, Seamore-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, the A. M. U Musical Agency, Proprietors of the Famous Imperial Bands have Booked several important Engagements for the coming Season. Military and Orchestral Bands on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet, containing full particulars, to the Manager, C. JESSON, The Institute, 96, Longacre, W.C. Telephone, 9,827 Central.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS

WANTED, by Experienced Conductor (Violin), Engagement, Theatre or Variety. Compose, Arrange. M.D., Renad's "Swiss Express." H. NATION, 116, High-street, Collier's-wood, Merton, S.W.

WANTED, by Musical Director of First-class Provincial Theatre,
Summer Engagement as Leader or First Violin.
Apply,
17, Pepys-road, New-cross-gate.

WANTED, by Musical Director, Engagement; also Flute, Viola, or Second Violin. Any Business. Apply, WARD, 6, Lower Audley-st., Blackburn.

WANTED, by Leader, Engagement, Circus, Tenting or otherwise. Good répertoire.
H. JAMES, 15, Lower Drayton-place, West Croydon, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Immediately, Competent Mus. Dir., Piano and Violin, Composer and Arranger. Good Library. Four Years present Engagement. Address, M. D., 50, Chestnut-st., Worcester.

WANTED, by Conductor-Pianist, Engagement, Summer Season. Experienced Accompanist All Lines. Tour or Pier. References. ARTHUR CREIGHTON, 170, Walworth-road, London.

WANTED, by First or Second Violin, combine First or Second Trombone, Engagement. Excellent refs. SYKES, Leader, New Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, by Violinist (Experienced), Summer Engagement. At Liberty through Closing. Distance no object. Address, VIOLINIST, 11, Gilpin-st, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Violin or Viola, Engagement. Good References. Town or Seaside. Could join at once. M., 1, Council-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, by Violinist (combine Cornet), Summer Engagement or Deputising Good refs. HARRY WILLOWS, 11, Haven-bank, Boston, Lincolnshire.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement for Season. Young, Steady, and Reliable. Good References. ALBERT NEWELL, Violinist, Hebden Bridge.

WANTED, by Violinist (Lady), Orchestral Engagement. Good Pianist, Sight Reader. July, September. Miss A. BEARD, Bonn, Means, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by Violinist, First-class Solo (Lady), Good Orchestral Player, Accompanist, and Sight-reader, Engagement. London preferred. Would not object to Pier Pavilions. Address, D., 33, Cricketfield-road, Clapton, N.E.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Violin or Viola, Engagement, any business. Vacant June 20.
H. GLAISTAR, Poole's Myriorama, Blaengarw, S. Wales.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engt. Twenty-seven. Abstainer. Dis. June 20. Seaside preferred. Variety, Theatre, or Dance Business. PHIPPS, 8, High-st., Pontypool.

WANTED, by Violinist (First or Second), Engagement, late Solo Player of Army String Band. Good references, young and steady fellow. JOSEPH BOWER, 27, Fixby-avenue, Pye Neot, Halifax.

WANTED, by Cornettist, Re-engagement. Any Business. At Liberty. Prime Company.
F. M'KENZIE, 43, Barcaple-street, Springburn, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Cornet, Permanent or Summer Engagement. Experienced in Opera. Solo Cornet, Clevedon, 1900 and 1901; Broadstairs, 1902 and 1903. Liberty June 6.
48, Warner-street, Bordesley, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, Engagement, any business. References if required.
C. T. NUTTALL, 8, Linby-street, Burnley.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement. Can combine String or Supply Band. Address, CORNET, care of M'BRIDE, 22, West Stewart-street, Greenock, N.B.

WANTED, by Cornet, Second, Shop Tenting.
BUTLER 37, Albion-terrace, Cilfynydd, S. Wales.

WANTED, by Cornet and Euphonium (Combine Trombone). Engt. Both experienced. Lib. HARPER, Swan Hotel, Navigation-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Cornet (Combine Viola), Engagement, any Business. First-class Sight Reader, with long experience. Age Twenty-eight. Apply, Box 7,940, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Clarionet (Experienced), an Engagement, or Deputising, in London. WILLIAM HAMILTON, Bessborough Library, Rochampton-st., near Tate Gallery.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement, Summer or otherwise, any Business. Experienced At Liberty through Closing. BASSOON, New T., Oxford.

WANTED, by String Bass, Engagement. Any Business. Experienced. Highest references VENDOME, 28, Alton-road, Richmond, Surrey.

WANTED, by Double Bass (Four-string), Seaside Engagement. Ten Years' Experience. Sober, Reliable. GEO. TONKS, Nethercot, Gravelly-hill, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Double Basso, Engagement until August. CHAS. EATON, Sen., 3, Hatton-street, Newtown, Macclesfield.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Deputising or Permanency. Experienced and Reliable. References Address, J. E. SCOTT, 41, Gladstone-street, London-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Trombone or Euphonium, Engagements Matinées, Dances, Balls, or Short Engagements in General Experienced and Reliable J. F. FAIRCHILD, Fernleigh, Elmdale-rd., Palmer's-grn., N.

WANTED, by Trombone (Good), Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall. Experienced Permanency or Summer Season. Box 7,946, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Solo Trombonist, Engagement. Any business. Steady, reliable, good refs. RITCHIE, 32, Sutton-street, Holloway Head, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Trombone (or Trombone combine Euphonium), Engagement Highest of references. Reliable. CHAS JUDD, 9, Trafalgar-road, Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, by Bass Trombone, Situation through disappointment. Good reference. Steady and reliable. Two Years last Situation. G. BLISS, 150, Beaconsfield-road, Hastings.

WANTED, by Trombonist, Engagement, any Business, competent and reliable. Lib. through closing. BLEACKLEY, 262, Waterloo-st., Bolton, Lancs.

WANTED, by Trombonist, First-class Engagement. Any Business.
Box 7,963, "The Era."

WANTED, by Trombone and Four String Bass (Competent), Engagement June 20.
Address, B. MORRIS, P.O., Blengaur, South Wales.

WANTED, by Solo Euphonium (experienced), Engagement in Military or Town Band.
M. BRYAN, 30, Hanover-street Pimlico, S.W.

WANTED, by Bombardon, Season Engagement, Seaside. Experienced. Good refs. Could do Yeomanry Training. Address, J. NOONAN, 9, All Saints Green, Norwich.

WANTED, by Bombardon and Double Bass, Engagement Thoroughly reliable. First-class reference. E. LAZZARI, 24, Hoxton-road, Torquay

WANTED, by Bombardon Player, Engagement. Could furnish a Band with a splendid New Electro-plated Instrument. Seacoast Corporation Band preferred. Abstainer. Distance no object. JAMES EDISON, 90, Back Colne-road, Brierfield, near Burnley.

WANTED, by Viola, Summer Engagement. Experienced. Excellent references.
VIOLA, 23, Grove-road, Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, by 'Cellist (Theatre Royal, Barnsley), Engagement, Seaside preferred HERBERT MILLS, 29, Spencer-street, Park-grove, Barnsley.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement, Theatre or Variety Business. Thoroughly Experienced. 'CELLIST, 14, Avenue-road, Southampton.

WANTED, as 'Cello or D. Bass, Re-engagement. Permanency preferred, excellent references BASSO, 170, Drakefell-road, Brockley, S.E.

WANTED by 'Cellist (Experienced), Good Summer Engagement. Address, W. D. KRUSSEN, 33, Beatrice-street, Bootle, Liverpool.

WANTED, by 'Cello or Bass (any Business), Engagement; highest references. PHILLIPS, 52 Star-lane, Carlton-hill, Nottingham.

WANTED, by Oboe, Engagement. Summer or Deputising (Pianist) References.
OBOE, 3, Epirus mansions, Fulham.

WANTED, by Solo Harpist, Maud Estlin Grundy, Age Sixteen, Sallé Erard, Alexandra P.; Aqm., Brighton. 18, Lawn-rd., Hampstead, London, N.W.

WANTED, by Solo and Orchestral Harpist and Pianist, Summer Engagement. Any Business. Reliable. Refs. SINCLAIR, 30, Empire-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Flautist (Good), at Liberty for Summer Engagement.
Address, Box 7,943, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagements, Month of July. Any Business or Deputy. Reliable. P., Flautist, Alexandra T., Stoke Newington.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement. Would deputise for few weeks. Disengaged June 13th. W. THOMPSON, 6, Ashford-road, Brighton.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo (Good), Summer Engagement. Experienced, Thoroughly Steady, and Reliable. E. EMBLEY, 32, Edward-st., Cardiff.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement. Steady, experienced. SLADE, 2, Rose-cottages, Hambrook-street, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Orchestral Engagement.
DAVID A. NEEDHAM, 76, Marlborough-road, Bedford.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement, Thoroughly experienced any Business. Good references. J. NICKEL, Clifford-road, Boston-square, Yorks.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement or Deputising. Thoroughly experienced. References. FRANK M'LOUGHLIN, 61, Kelso-road, Liverpool.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo (Experienced). Seaside Summer Engagement.
Good refs. T. B KNIGHT, 16, Kempsford-road, Kennington.

WANTED, by Pianist (Conductor), Engagement. Any business. Seaside preferred. Read, Transpose, Sight. NAT YOUNG, 4, West-street, Lower Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, by H. A. Fry, Pianist Late Orchestra, Crystal Palace Theatre, S.E., Engagement or Deputising. 35, Sutton-street, York-road, Lambeth, S.E.

WANTED, by Pianist (First-class, Long Experience), Engagement, any Business (Large or Small). Thoroughly Reliable. Last Engagement Nine Years. LORENZO LEWIS, 744, Oxford-road, Reading.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement. All Lines. Reader, &c. Liberty now. Orchestral or otherwise. HINCHCLIFFE, 8, Cranbrook-road, Doncaster.

WANTED, by Pianist (Lady), Summer's Engagement. Thoroughly Experienced.
PIANIST, 63, Woodbridge-road, Ipswich.

WANTED, by Pianiste (Quadrille), Engagement. Five years' experience. Good Accompanist, quick Sight Reader. A. L. 264, King-st., Hammersmith.

WANTED, Known to Professionals, Young Lady, good Accompanist (Sight Reader), offers Services. Concerts, &c. A., 4, High-road, Kilburn, N.W.

WANTED, by Pianist (First-class) Engagement, any Business, for June 20. J. BRIERLEY, Poole's Myriorama, Nantymoel; next, Blengarw, near Bridgend.

WANTED, by Pianist (First-class), Seaside or Permanent Engagement. Used to any Bus Excellent refs. Can open at once.
address, STOLL, Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland, Durham

WANTED, by Double Drums and Effects, Engagement. Experienced and Efficient. Any Business. CHAPMAN, 16, Sidney-street, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, with Effects, Good Engagement. Experienced, Efficient, and Steady. 13, Home-park-house, Hampton Wick.

WANTED by Drums, all Effects, Engagement. Thoroughly experienced. Any business. Now at Liberty. HAYES, 165, Breck-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Engagement in any business.
Block F, 134, Thorawl-street, Whitechapel, E.

WANTED, by Ladies' Bands and other Artistes, Engagements. ENTERTAINMENT BUREAU, M. ALDIS, 8, Bedford-terr., Kensington. Tel., 1,824, Kensington.

WANTED, Known, Black's Bands, Military Band, Eighteen to Twenty-six Performers, Geisha Orchestra (Ladies in Japanese Costume), Orchestras for Piers, Pavilions, Small Bands for Hotels, Cafés, Arcades. 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Band, Brass and Reed, Good, Ten Performers, Engagement, Seaside or Town. Good Uniform. First-class Répertoire. At Liberty July 16. Terms to Sergt SMITH, Band, Royal Garrison Artillery, Bullen Camp, Isle of Wight.

WANTED, by Small Band, including Piano, Engagement. First-class People, used to any business. Quote terms and send for Programme.
GUS HARRIS, Solo Violinist, 65, Grosvenor-road, S.W.

WANTED, by Small String Band, Engagement. Large Up-to-date Répertoire. Vacant through closing. F. DRAKE, Borough Hall, Guildford.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful advertisers:—

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"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion
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"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster
"Littlehampton."

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPO., SHEERNESS-ON-SEA.
WANTED, First-class Ground and Variety Acts, July and August.
Must be new to the above Town.
Artistes please state their very lowest terms, as town very small (16 000), and only Tent here, filling out time until we Return to Winter Quarters, and cannot afford Winter Salaries.
There are no office expenses or Commission stopped from Artistes' Salaries whatever.
The town is a very pleasant one to spend a week in. Apartments cheap. In fact, many Artistes have thrown their following week's Engagement up for the sake of basking in the sun of this rustic seaside resort. Some have stayed compulsorily and some Troupes have stayed too long.
Address, direct,
TRANSFIELD, Hippodrome, Sheerness-on-Sea.

HIPPODROME AND PLEASURE GARDENS, GUERNSEY.
Proprietor, E. J. SMITH.
WANTED, for the above, Smart and Refined Acts, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Musical Acts, Troupe of Dogs, Performing Lions, Bicycle Acts, Serios, Good Comedians, Illustrated Songs—in fact, anything that can work on Stage.
State absolute lowest price in first letter.
Address, E. SMITH
Hippodrome, Guernsey.

WANTED, Circus Artistes and Big Sensations in all Lines. Share or Certainty.
Apply, H. E BRAMMALL, Crystal Palace.

WANTED, Aug. 1, 2, 15, 19, and 20, Specialities and Aerial Shows in all Lines. Lithos, Memos. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

THE SCARBOROUGH HIPPODROME.
WANTED, July, onwards, Good Equestrians, Clowns, Tumblers, and Vaulters, Performing Animals. Must be New to the Town. Mozoodos, send Address. GEO. ZALVA, 19, Chapelfield-road, Norwich.

WANTED, Two Smart Knockabout Tumblers and a Smart Risley Performer.
JOE BOGANNY,
Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, First-class Rolling Globe Act (Lady), June 18. Rossini, also Gala Acts, communicate. Particulars, Calverto, Glasgow.

WANTED, Young Man, about Twenty-one Years, to do Comedy Tumbling. Agouste and Clowning, Circus Boy preferred. State tricks, height, terms, &c. Must have good appearance, and able to speak lines. Box 7,942, care of "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Bearer and Good Catcher at once. Must be steady. ACROBAT, 13, Cregoe-street, Bath-row, Birmingham.

WANTED, Boy, Fourteen to Sixteen, small for age, that can Tumble a little, and a little Hand-balancing. Good Home and Pocket Money. Offers, Box 7,958, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, at Once Smart Young Fellow, Must be Good Hand Balancer and Tumbler.
Write with Terms, Tricks, Height, and Weight in First Letter to Box 7,949,
Care of "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Top Mount.
Apply,
LEOPOLD,
County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Clown Cricket Team, for off-day. Back same Night.
SULLINGS, Pyrotechnist, Ipswich.

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED

YARMOUTH HIPPODROME.
WANTED, Troupe of Lady and Gentlemen Swimmers;
also
Good Wardrobe Woman.
Apply,
GEO. GILBERT,
Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Tentmaster, to open at once. All letters, Mrs DAVIES, Paragon Circus, Irvinstown, Fermanagh. Harry Topplo wire. Address lost.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Circus, Hippodromes, and Pleasure Gardens Proprietors and Managers to know that all or part of Ohmy's Circus Company and Stud of Horses, Ponies, Mules, &c., can be Engaged for Long or short Season from the end of June. The most successful show of the kind now in England. Everything First-class and Up to Date. A sure success.
For further particulars,
address,
King OHMY,
111, Raikes-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Celebrated Lion show, Best in the Profession, Vacant Oct. 3, 10, Nov. 7 and 14. Thanks to Proprietors and Agents for kind Offers, but above-mentioned Dates are my First Vacancies. Apply Mr L. JENSEN, Proprietor for Ella's Lions June 13, Grand, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Known, Funny Little Paddy, the Australian Clown and All-round Circus Performer, just finished Twenty-eight Weeks Hippodrome, Dewsbury. My Benefit on May 27 Record House of the Season. Hundreds turned away. The most popular Clown ever appeared in Dewsbury. Re-engaged for next Season. This is no bluff. Refer to G. Weldon, Esq. The Clown who can put on always something New and Up to Date. Clever, Funny, and Original. The People say I can do anything. At Liberty for Four Weeks only. Address, Hippo, Dewsbury, N.B.—Want to Hire Bar Act Horse for one Week. July 25.

WANTED, Known, Teddy Saul, All-round Clown and Comedian, with Trick, Comic, and Tumbling Entrées Also Miss Violetta. Two Turns. At Lib. for Circuses, Halls, &c 63, Buchanan-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Handy Andy (Frank Anderson), Knockabout, Talking, Tumbling Clown and Agouste, at Liberty. Per., 41, Lavan-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Two Dominos, Clown and Donkey, a Comic, Talking, Calculating, and Thought-Reading. Liberty June 13th. 18, Springfield, Liverpool

WANTED, Known, Bimbo, Talking Knockabout Clown and Agouste, with Good Trick and Comic Entrées, at Liberty June 20. Now appearing with success Green's Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte (Lady and Gent.), Gymnastic Pot-pourri Act. Free August. Address, Les Terres, Guernsey.

WANTED, Known, Cara Magda, Lady Sensational Gymnast, Vacant June 27, July 4, Halls, Galas. For Galas 50ft. high. No net.
2, Hadfield-terrace, Blackley, Manchester.

WANTED, June 20, 27, by Alec Aubrey, Unique Gymnast. A Big Star Act.
Pier, Eastbourne. Agent, Sley.

WANTED, Known that Eleonora Lady Gymnast, and the Beautiful Vanda, in her Great Juggling Act on the Revolving Globe, also First-class Wire Act, are Vacant June 27 and July 4. Three Distinct Specialities. Next week, York Gala and Keighley Gala. For Terms and Dates address, 36, Bridge-st., Macclesfield.

WANTED, Known, Savaro, Bird Mimic and Gymnast, Liberty Monday next. Wire quick, Alhambra, Sandgate; after Saturday, 65A, Ellen-street, London, E.

WANTED, Monday; also 20th and 27th. Les Barrs, Gymnastic Comedians. Wire, F., Huddersfield; after Sat., 17, Walcot-sq, Kennington, London.

WANTED, Known, Seltina Troupe, Lady and Gentlemen Acrobats (seven in number), Liberty Monday. Wire, 47, Duke-street, Birmingham

WANTED, Known, Harland and Rollison, Comedy Musicians, Vacant June 20 and 27 Transfield's Circus, Sheerness; Monday, P., Northampton.

WANTED, Known, Mons. De Greine, Juggler, Liberty June, July, August, Circus, Halls, Fêtes. 1, Silver-place, Golden-square, W.

WANTED, Known, that the Beautiful Vanda, in her Great Juggling Speciality, also First-class Wire Act, is Vacant June 27. Hall or Gala. Two Distinct Specialities. Big success, Peel Park Gala, Whitsun. Next week, York Gala and Keighley Gala. For Dates and terms address, 36 Bridge-street, Macclesfield.

WANTED, by Houpla and Hecla, Equilibrists and Acrobats, June 13.
Wire, Thorne, Doncaster

WANTED, June 13 and 20, by Salmon, Demon Trick Cyclist, the Man of Many Wheels. Wire, 25 Albany-terrace, Burnley; or, Stebbing.

WANTED, Known, "the Herculean Marvels," Herr's Zanellas (Vacant 20th) Physical Culture Exponents and Equilibrists in their Great Speciality Act Originators. An Act apart from all others. This week, Blackley Pierrots, Manchester.

WANTED, by Active Youth, to learn Business of Acrobat or Gymnast, at Employer's own terms. Address, LEON ZEFFERTT, 99, Myrtle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Young Man, Position of Trust in Travelling Circus or Show. Good Team Driver. Good Refs. Age Thirty, Tall, Total Abstainer. DAVIDSON, 273, Southampton-street, Peckham, London.

WANTED, Engagements for Airship Flights.
Balloon Ascents, One to Six Balloons;
Parachute Descents, by Ladies or Gentlemen (from Gas Balloons or Hot-air Balloons);
Captive Balloons, ascending 1,000ft.
Terms upon application,
SPENCER BROTHERS, Limited,
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.,
45B, Aberdeen-park, Highbury, London, N.

Parachute Descents.
WANTED, Engagements, by Fleet and Co, the Reliable Aeronauts, Lady or Gent. Gas or Hot-air Balloons. 53, Grovenor-park-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Dates, for Electric Light Plant. Complete. Also Water Carnival Plant for Summer Season. Under New Management.
W. REYNOLDS, Coton, Cambs.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

ABERDEEN and DUNDEE PALACE VARIETY THEATRES.
Booked in Conjunction with the Livermore Tour.
WANTED, Known, to Artists.
The above Theatres closed June 4,
Reopen July 18.
Silence in the meantime a respectful negative.
ERNEST SHELDON, Director.

Scotch Tour.
WANTED, First-class Variety Artistes, Tivoli, Glasgow;
Queen's, Glasgow;
Palace, Kilmarnock.
All can offer Twelve Weeks, W. F. Frame Tour
Full List of Bookings, terms, &c.,
Barney Armstrong,
Vaudeville Club, Charing-cross-road, London,
until further notice.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, June 20, 27, July 4, on, Lancashire and Yorkshire.
MARCUS BOYLE, Howard House, Knowsley-street, Bury.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

IRISH TOUR.
TIVOLI, DUBLIN;
PALACE, CORK;
ALHAMBRA, BELFAST.

WANTED, Artists, Stars Good Novelties, Serios, Comedians, Comedy Sketches, Acrobats, Jugglers, New and Novel acts
Will Sley, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, for the Albert Theatre Brighouse, Variety Artistes, to give three performances daily, as Pierrots, for four or five weeks, starting July 11. Address, lowest terms, T. MORTON POWELL Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and future Dates. Lessee and Manager, WM. MOULD. Central Palace, North Shields.

GOOD TEMPLARS' HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
Now Booking for Season, Sept. 3, 1904, to March 25, 1905.
WANTED, Artistes, to Send Vacant Dates and Lowest Terms at once to
WM. BIGGAM, Musical Secretary, 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.
Three Hails, Turn of Fifteen to Twenty Minutes in each.
Conveyances provided between the Hails.

WANTED, Wanted, Gala Artistes, all Lines.
Lithos., Photos., and lowest terms indispensable.

Call for the Great York Gala,
June 15, 16, and 17.
Prof. Heaton, Four Ramios, Victor's Dogs, Belle Tosca, The Dorntons, Eddie Clay, Eleonora, Bros. Llodge, The Chivers. Mdlle. Vanda, Amphitious King, Bros. Monte, Olmar Troupe, and the Chinese Princesses.

All are requested to be on the Field no later than 3·0 o'clock, Tuesday Afternoon, June 14.

James Fioni's Agency,
The Leading Gala Caterers,
The Laurels,
Derwent-road, Liverpool.

Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 31, Old Swan.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artistes, all Lines, including Pianist, for Pier Pavilion, Scarborough; and a good Palmist, to use Pavilion at intervals. Also Artistes for Hippo., Scarborough, and another town.
Address, QUINTON GIBSON, Theatre, Doncaster.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artists in all Lines.
Photos. and lowest terms to
BILLY MOORE, New Pavilion, Hoylake, Cheshire.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes, all Lines, June 20 onwards. Lowest terms, dates, &c. Big Acts for Staffordshire Miners' Demonstration, &c. Animal Acts, Novelties, Aug. 1, onwards. State terms.
Edgar Stebbings, Agent, 23. Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, Two Weeks, June 20, July 4, 18, Aug. 15, Living Novelties, Prodigies. Can open at once. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxwork Exhibition, Dublin.

WANTED, for Pier Pavilion, Portobello, Variety Artistes of every Description for July and August. Those coming North preferred. DELNO FRITZ.

WANTED, People's Palace, Wolverhampton, July 4 and onwards, Artists, in all Lines Doubles doing Singles. Lowest Summer terms to RICHARDS, 1, Frankfort-buildings, Frankfort-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, from now, on. Apply Mr SCOTT,
Empire Music Hall, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, for Saturday Al Frescoes. State absolute lowest and Business.
Public Hall, Forest gate, E.

WANTED, Artistes capable of Two Turns, July 4 and 11. S.-W. England. Lowest terms to Prof. HOCKING, Banner-road, Bristol.

WANTED, Artistes in All Lines with immediate and later Dates Vacant to communicate with Cavill and Co., 15. Hotham-street, Liverpool
Telegrams, "Overture, Liverpool." Telephone, 2 140 Royal.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes all Kinds for immediate Dates.

J. G. ANDERSON,
Empire, Greenock.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, July and August, Pleasure Gardens, Kirn, near Glasgow.
STRAFFORD, Dunoon, N.B.

WANTED, Artistes, Anything who can Follow Marie Loftus, the Elliotts and Savonas, Maggie Duggan, &c —in fact, anything big for Liverpool, Manchester, Bolton, Rochdale, St. Helens, Warrington, Ashton, Wigan, Leeds, York, Barrow, Stoke, Derby, Grimsby, Dudley, Northampton, Coventry, &c., New Brighton, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Artistes out June 13 and 20 wire or write sharp. Jess Verno's Agency, 13, Seymour-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Phone 2,076 Royal. Good Turns Free for Dudley July 11 write

The East Coast Entertainment Company.
WANTED, First-class Al Fresco Artistes, for Second Company now forming. Baritone (must have very powerful voice), Humourist, Society Entertainers. Good Specialities write. Must dress well. Lowest terms (fourteen weeks), photos, references, and répertoire to E. D. HESSLETINE, Manager, Hornsea, Hull.

WANTED, for America, Several Liliputian Artistes not over 4ft. high (must be perfect), either Musical or Acrobats, or Scratch Performers Engagement would be for Six Months or a Year. Good Salary, and Traveling Expenses from London to New York, and Fortnight's Salary in Advance on Signing of Contract. Send full particulars to Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, for June 13 and on. Lowest to
HUGH DEMPSEY. 42, Crowtree-road, Sunderland.

WANTED, First-rate Artistes, June 20 and 27 (North).

Silence in all cases a polite negative.

G. and F. Peel,
42, Granville-house, Arundel-street, W.C.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines for June 13, and onwards, Fred Durham's Agency. 'Phone, 2,477 Hop. 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, S.W.

WANTED, Artists, All Lines, June 20 and 27.
Address, W. ONDA, Winter Gardens Southport.

WANTED, Artistes, in Every Line, Large and Small, for London and the Country. Send all Bookings, Lithos., and Lowest Terms, to
Papa Brown,
Agent,
Empire,
Cardiff.
Papa Brown,
Agent,
Empire,
Cardiff.
Papa Brown,
Agent,
Empire,
Cardiff.
Tel., 233, Streatham, London. Tel. Add., "Jibbers, Lond.'

GRAND, HANLEY.
WANTED, All Artistes Holding Contracts for the above place to kindly note that Hanley is the centre of the Staffordshire Potteries, which consists of a cluster of the following towns:—
Burslem, one a-half miles from Hanley; Longton, about three miles; Stoke, about one mile; Fenton, about two and a-half; Newcastle, about two; and Tunstall, about three miles.
All Artistes holding Contracts for Hanley are requested to carefully read the distance clause in their Contracts, which will be strictly adhered to.
Signed,
CHAS. G. ELPHINSTONE.

WANTED, Artists to please notice Change of Address, J. C. Bloom, Agent for the M.H.A.R.A., Wheatsheaf Hotel, King Edward-street, Hull. First-class Smokes, Rooms. "The Era," &c., taken.

WANTED, Artistes holding Engagements Alhambra, Belfast, to write in Fourteen Days before Opening. H. T. DOWNS, Manager.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

COLLINS' HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
COLLINS' HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.

Sole and Responsible Proprietor, Mr P. COLLINS.
Sole and Responsible Proprietor, Mr P. COLLINS.

The only Variety Theatre in the Potteries.

Packed Twice Nightly at 7 0 and 9·0
with Delighted Audiences,
the Elite of the District.
The Theme of Conversation everywhere.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Immediately, and for Far Ahead Dates, Stars, Specialities, and Novelties, Money no Object for Value.

Read this!
Artistes in all Lines are especially reminded they can have Immediate and reasonably distant Dates. They are not asked to accept them in the next century, with the sole idea of excluding them from this district until then.

Monday, June 13, and on,
Leo Dryden, Milner Verren, Florrie Claribel, Adelina, Andreassen Brothers, Henderson, Blind Pianist; Caselli and James, Sisters Hula, Coloured Animatograph, Cook and Clinton, Lady Shooters, &c.

Magnificent Band of Sixteen Performers.
Chef d'Orchestra, Fred Leake.

Rehearsal Monday at 12 30.
Collins' Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent,
Twice Nightly,
7 0 and 9 0.
Twice Nightly,
7 0 and 9 0.
The only Variety Theatre in the Potteries.

Sole and Responsible Proprietor, Mr P. Collins.
Sole and Responsible Proprietor, Mr P. Collins.

General Manager,
FRANK EGERTON,
to whom address all communications.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession.
Acts New in Dublin for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland.
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09,144.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Stars in All Lines from June 20, onwards, for Ashton, Warrington, St. Helens, and Liverpool.
Write or wire,
F. WILLMOT,
Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
MANCHESTER.
Messrs THOMAS BARRASFORD and WILL SLEY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Star Turns and Novel Acts.
WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for Blackpool and Morecambe, Star Turns, Big Novelties, for June 27, and July, August, and September.
Big Acts. Price no Object.
Acrobats, Wire Acts, Trapeze, Sketches.
Jugglers, Dog Shows, Comedy Acts, Musical Clowns, Bar Performers, Comedy Quartette,
Bicycle Troupe, and Any New Novelty.
Lithos., photos, price to
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Star Turns for Seaside and Every Hall of Note in the Provinces for Immediate Dates.
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Star Turns, Tops of Bill, for London and Provinces, Immediate Bookings, June 20, on. Fullest particulars, including Terms, Lithos., and Full List of Bookings. Can Offer Suitable Acts, New to Australia, Twenty to Forty Weeks.
Day's Variety Agency,
Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.
Telephone, 6,915 Gerrard.
Telegraphic Address, "Terpsichore, London."

WANTED, for First-class Variety Theatre, throughout this Year and next,
High-class Refined Turns of all kinds.
Terms, all Vacancies, lithos to
W. H SAVILE and Co.,
3, St. James's-place, Brighton

WANTED, Few Cheap Turns, July 11, Week, Bridlington. Have already booked Ventriloquist, Musical Turn, Cinématograph, and Comedian. Pianist write. W. S. BENTLEY, 35, Oulton-ter., Bradford.

WANTED, Tops of Bill Star Turns, Big Specialities.
Immediate Bookings,
June 20, and onwards.
Particulars,
List of Bookings,
Lithos.,
&c.,
M. Chester and Co.,
Variety, Circus, and Dramatic Agents,
13, Oxford-street,
Manchester.

Telegrams,
"Amusements, Manchester."

WANTED, for June 27th, at Royal, Oldham. A Few Special Star Turns.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

WANTED, Good Speciality Turns, Weekly, for Open-air. Must be Good. Terms, &c.,
PIERROT, Queen's Hotel, Gourock, Scotland.

WANTED, Specialities only. Bookings this week include Little Dando and Star Musical Act, which for obvious reasons shall be nameless
Address, M'ASKELL, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Companies, Variety or Comedy. Various dates, July, Aug., Sept. Modern theatre. Seaside resort. MANAGER, King's T., Walton-on-Naze.

WANTED, for Immediate and Future Dates, the Cream of the Profession. Those Written before, please Write Again. Send Full List of Bookings to Barnard and Deetrich, Continental Hustlers, 7, Clayton-square, Liverpool.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME,
NEW BROMPTON, KENT.
WANTED, for the Opening, October, 1904, First-class Comedy, Musical, and Dramatic Sketches, to run about forty-five to sixty minutes, from eight to ten Artistes; also First-class Refined Variety Artiste; also Big Speciality Numbers. Must be new to the above District. Address, TRANSFIELD. Hippo., Sheerness-on-Sea.

WANTED, for Combination June 20, near Birmingham, Novelties, Doubles doing Singles. Shares or Salary. SIDNEY DOLF, 252, Heath-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman Comic Sketch Artistes and Dancers (Single and Double Turns), Scotch Tour, August and September. COUTTS, 112, St. George's-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good All-round Comedian at Once. Must be thoroughly Refined, and used to High-class Al Fresco. Fullest partics. of business, refs, and terms, GEO. KINGTON, Pier, Lytham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

EMPRESS THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
HARTLEPOOL.

Proprietors,
Councillor EVERTON and CRAGG;
General Manager, HARRY BURNS;
Acting-Manager, C. FERRIER.

All communications must be addressed to Harry Burns, Harry Burns's Agency only,
Empress Varieties, Hartlepool.

Telephone, 0,231; Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

WANTED, Call, Monday, June 13, 1 0 o'clock prompt.
Staig's Motor Sensation, Hetty Urma, Sisters Poole, Walter Blake, Wee Mona, Ike Scott and Son, The Donatos, Chinko and Assistant, Burns Bioscope.
All must attend.
(Signed)
H. BURNS,
General Manager.

Artistes Please Note
Rules No. 5 and 6 particularly on all Contracts, which will be Strictly Enforced.

Any Star Artiste having a Week after Middlesbrough, Sunderland, Newcastle, or break from Scotland, communicate immediately.

Harry Burns's Agency.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Attractions.

Best Acts only entertained.

Address, with full particulars, Dates, and Terms, to
H. Rose and Co.,
H. Rose and Co.,
H. Rose and Co.,
Variety Agents,
Variety Agents,
6, Duke-street, Adelphi, W.C.
Telephone, 6,690 Gerrard.
N.B.—Mr Rose Returns to Town Monday, June 20.

WANTED, Outdoor Attractions, for Tuesday, Aug. 2, 1904.
Apply, HON. SECRETARIES,
Amalgamated Friendly Societies' Fête,
Yeovil.

WANTED, First-class Concert Comedians, for Seaside. Used to Sketches, Concerted Numbers. Open July 4th, Filey, Yorkshire. Send Lowest Terms, Répertoire, &c., ANDIE CAINE, 139A, Coldharbour-lane, London, S.E. Also Good Pianist, and Man to make himself Useful.

WANTED, Good Comedians, Refined, for Abergele, North Wales. Terms, Shares. Summer Season. Address, 6, st. James's, Leicester.

WANTED, June 13, 20, and 27, Comedian; also Specialities doing Two Acts, for Al Fresco Entertainment. Absolute lowest terms must be stated. PARDOE, Theatre, Middleton, Lancs.

WANTED, Refined Comic Singer and Baritone for High-class Pierrot Troupe Sole permit. Terms, photo, 7, North Lindsey-street, Dundee

WANTED, for Al Fresco (covered Stage) First-class Comedian, Coon Vocalist, Tenor, Pianist (Lady or Gent.), must Sing. Rehearse June 20; open 27. Terms, &c., A. ANDERSON, Empire, Oxford.

WANTED, at Once, Biograph Operator, with or without Machine, and Faraders. Long run. Fair Business. Money sure. Wire or write, WESTBROOK, 10, Lower Reed-street, West Hartlepool,

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, Vacant for Immediate Dates, Tops of Bills, Novelties, and all kinds of Big Attractions.
Wire, "Bravissimo, London;"
Paris: H. B. MARINELLI, London.
Ring up, 5,718, Central.

WANTED, by Gracie Bard, Juvenile Character Vocalist, Coon Speciality, Monday next. Wire, for sure success. BARD, 20, King-street, Burnley.

WANTED, Known, Nellie Lovell, Unique Male Impersonator, Special Engagement, Macnaghten's Grand, Sheffield. Monday, Palace, Blackburn.

WANTED, Known, Miss Kitty Priestman, Mezzo-soprano, wishes to Thank Three Sisters Hayden for Comfortable Engagement. Open for Piers, &c., or would join another for Halls. This, Pier, Eastbourne; next, the Grand, Clapham-junction.

WANTED, by Miss Gladys Gabrielle, Refined Characteristic Juvenile Dance, Piers, Pavilions, or Halls. 80, Bartholomew-road, Camden-road, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Ethel Yorke, the Pretty and Talented Comedienne. Liberty June 13. Wire, Alhambra, Sandgate; after, 17, Crewdson-rd., Brixton.

WANTED, Known, Miss Pattie Burton, Soprano Ballad Vocalist and Illustrated Songstress. Liberty Monday. Address, Blake-street, Upperthorpe, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Baby Lloyd, Vocal Wonder, Talk of Wakefield. Standing, Grand Theatre, Doncaster. Liberty June 20th. Nellie Vann, Serio, wire.

WANTED, Monday next by Lily Howen, Speciality Vocalist and Expert Dancer. Wire, 36, Grace-road, Aylestone-park, Leicester. Big Novelty.

WANTED, by Edith Sylvesto, Novel Contortionist, Monday, June 13th, 20th, 27th. Wire, Theatre Royal, Leigh, Lancs; or, sley.

WANTED, Known, Allen Richards, Lady Impersonator and Comic Singer, Liberty Monday and onwards. Big Speciality. 78, Gartside-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by Cambo, Musical Act. Ten Instruments.
Also Ventriloquist. Two Big Acts. Al Fresco, &c.
Wire or write,
59, Urquhart-road, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Monday next, by Fred Alberto, Character Comedian and Dancer. Managers Wanting a Sure Success wire, quick, The Palace, Derby.

WANTED, Monday next by Raymond Synnott, Smart Singing Comedian. Distance no object. Wire, 9, Clifford-rd., West Stanley, Co. Durham

WANTED, by Vosper, the Master Mimic, June 20 and 27.
Address, Awsworth, Notts.

WANTED, by Victor Vulcan, the Original Human Crane, Weeks of Good Tour. Thanks for Offers. 11, Kirkstone-road, Hillsborough, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Kardoc, Gaol Breaker, Handcuff King, June 27, on Startling Lithos. Sure Draw. Also Marie Ellis, Comedienne. See Card. Wire.

WANTED, by Abadaroff's Novel Act, June 20, 27, and July, or later.
Terms, &c., 95, Stretford-road, Manchester; or Agents.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, by Alec Aubrey, Astounding Gymnast, June 20, 27. Big success.
Pier, Eastbourne. A Big Speciality Turn.

WANTED, a Few Immediate Dates by Mystic, Conjuror and Illusionist, the Finest Magical Act ever Produced, and guaranteed a Sure Draw. State Offers, 27, Stonor-road, Kensington, W.

WANTED, by Leslie H. Murray, Magician and Card Manipulator, June 20, July 4 and 11. Address, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

WANTED, by Banjoist and Mandolinist of Good Reputation, Engagement. Troupe or otherwise. Highest references. Address, W. M., 9, Seneca-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Monday next, June 13 and 20, by Bob Pearson, Great Vocal Comedian; also Lillie Pender, Society Comedienne, Brilliant Pianist. Two First-class Strictly Refined Numbers Wire, A., Sandgate.

WANTED, by Fields and Lewis, Great Comedy Act, "Picture Postcards" Vacant June 20. Wire, 154, Broughton-lane, Manchester.

WANTED, Galas, Circus, Al Fresco, or Variety. Turle and Turle, Funny, Lively, Knockabout Gymnastic Comedians, big success, Hippodrome, Guernsey. Two Distinct Acts. Terms or Shares. Wire, 43, Canichers, Guernsey.

WANTED, Known, Brothers Go-Bang, Eccentric Comedians and Patterers, on Tour. Free July 4th and onwards Communications, care of A. GRETTON, Castle Hotel, York.

WANTED, Known, Onda and Leon are at Liberty July 11, 18, 25 for Galas. Two First-class Acts. Address, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Sterling and Cashen, the great American Speciality Artists, Dancers, &c., want Monday; also 20th. Wire, Theatre, Brighouse.

WANTED, Monday Next, through disappointment, the Revell Troupe.
One, Two, or Three Turns.
Wire, Avenue Theatre, Kettering.

WANTED, Notice.—Parez Trio (Ladies), Musical Act, Handbell Experts.
Wire, for Monday, Theatre, Carmarthen.
Also Free June 27.

WANTED, Known, the Cullane Trio (late Cullane and Conroy) thank W. Sley for Twenty weeks. No Vacancies this year, fast booking up next.

WANTED, Monday Next, by the Rushforths, Song Illustrators; and King Leo, Ventriloquist. Two Acts. Wire, Empire, Wrexham. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Prof. Garland, Ventriloquist and Conjuror, wants June 27 and onwards, Piers, Halls, &c. Carter's Waxworks, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Prof. Lenton is now enjoying a comfortable Three Weeks' Holiday Engagement at Smith's Hippodrome, Guernsey, doing his Three Distinct Turns—High-class Conjuring, Second Sight (with Master Bertram), and the Bioscope. Southend Clacton, and Walton to follow. Only Two Weeks Vacant

WANTED, June 20th, 27th, Gillin, Ventriloquist; also Bioscope, with Russo-Jap and Comic Pictures Two Strong Acts.
This, Brighouse; next, Brothers Luck's Company, Theatre, Longton.

"Opera in the Halls."
CHAS. FISHER'S MINIATURE OPERA COMPANY.
WANTED, to Follow Palace, Belfast, June 20, Onwards. Répertoire, "Maritana," "Bohemian Girl," "Il Trovatore," "Faust," "Carmen."
Address, Palace, Belfast.

WANTED, Few Immediate and Forward Bookings. Salary or share. Two Hours or Part. Mr Harry Liston and Miss Lord Lumley's "Merry Moments." Pier Pavilion, Skegness.

WANTED, June 27 and July 4, Driscoll and Beattie's Sketch Company. Address, till Sunday, Palace, Bristol; next, Palace, Plymouth.

WANTED, Engagements by the Harmonic Entertainers, Costume Comedy Party; Unique, Humorous, Refined. 65, Fortess-road, London, N.W.

"FOR KING AND COUNTRY."
WANTED, Known, Tom Herman's Patriotic Naval and Military Spectacle, all Children, a great success. Next Week, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Aug. 1, 8, 22, Onwards, Chard's Dog Circus. One Great Act.
Assembly Rooms, Briton Ferry, Wales.

WANTED, Known, Elderly "Pro." would be Grateful for Employment in Varieties, however small, to keep the wolf from the door. Good Writer. Sober, Respectable. H. A., 18. Wheatsheaf-terrace, S.W.

WANTED, Dates, for the Towerograph Animated Pictures, Rebooked at the Blackpool Tower. One Machine at Liberty Monday next.
All Latest Subjects. Wire or write,
O. T. ROBINSON, 27, Birley-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, for W. Payne's Bio-Photoscopes, Immediate Bookings. One Machine. Vacant Monday. Wire, PAYNE, Empire, Portsmouth. Films for Sale.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman (Silver King), Showman's Auctioneer and Valuer, has for Sale, by Private Treaty, everything connected with the Business. N.B.—Always open to Purchase or Engage all kinds of Novelties, Curiosities, &c., alive or dead, if suitable for Exhibition.
Apply, Auction Office, Manor Farm, Dallington, Sussex.

Showmen's Fire Insurance.
WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showmen's Property Insured against Fire, on Tour or otherwise, anywhere in the United Kingdom.
For particulars apply to
F. F. POPE, Abingdon-on-Thames.

WANTED, Manager, to Run a First-Class Roundabout. Competent to Manage a Staff of Men. Well up to Running Machinery, looking after Electric Light Plant.
Apply, with Testimonial from last Employer,
P. COLLINS, Limited,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions for Pickard's American Museum, Trongate, Glasgow. State lowest terms, A. E. PICKARD.

WANTED, for Wonderland, Portsmouth, Freaks and Quick-showing Novelties. Must have Good Flash. Wire lowest terms for Monday, NELLIE SUNDERLAND.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, to open June 18. Lady Character Reader write in. From the head, face, and hands.
Carter's Waxworks, 10, Castle-place, Belfast.

WANTED, at once, Freaks and Novelties, for the Best Shop in London.
GEORGE CARO, 123, Hoxton-street, Shoreditch.

WANTED, Good Quick-showing Side Show for Belton Gardens, near Yarmouth, 3,000 Visitors Daily in Season. Splendid Kiosk for Good Wire Artist, 8ft. Space to Let in Sea View Exhibition, Yarmouth. Printing Machine or Glass-blower. Apply,
CLARENCE, Sea View Exhibition, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, a Smart, Tall, Young Lady as Attendant for Waxworks and Varieties.
Apply, A. E. PICKALD, 101, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, at Once, for Taylor's Electrograph, Young Man, Knockabout, for Parading and make himself useful. Good shop all year round to suitable person. State age, terms, &c., in first letter.
Taylor's Electrograph, Fair Field, Potton, Beds., Friday and Saturday; Gamblingay, Beds., Monday and Tuesday.

WANTED, at Once, Good Comedian. Must be steady, and willing to work. Good Wage.
SMITH, Auctioneer, Birstall.

WANTED, Good Auctioneer for Auction Mart. Good wages to Right Man.
Apply, Box 7,966, care of "The Era."

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Electrical Engraver, Machine and Stock found, for New Arcade. Wage and com.
Apply, P. Sherman, Amusement Caterer, Gt Yarmouth.

WANTED, Immediately, Good Wire Worker, for best shop in Bath. Thousands pass daily. BOUNDS, 27, Stall-street, Bath

WANTED, an Engagement by Lady Palmist for Summer Season. Salary or Shares.
Apply, Madame NETA,
13A, London-street, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Lady Palmist seeks Engagement at once. Share Terms or Otherwise.
Address, Madame ELLA, 104, Aston-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, George Nixon, Comical Dwarf, finishes Four Weeks, Holt's Waxworks, Plymouth Monday, James's Waxworks, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Harry Day, Liberty shortly. Handseller, Flanksman, and Watchmaker. Experienced. 4, Devonshire-place, Alfred-street, Aston.

WANTED, Known, Carl Harmon's Royal Punch and Judy and Marionettes, also Bioscope, open for Engagements. 101A, Penwith-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Signor Trevori, Punch and Judy, Conjuror, and Ventriloquist, has a few dates open for Fêtes, &c. Address, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

WANTED, Rifle-range Proprietors to Note,
Firework Cartridges.
Guns Repaired Quickly and Cheaply.
22s. B.B. Caps, Card Targets,
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Celluloid Balls for Water Fountains.
A Few Second-hand Winchester and Colt Repeaters.
Prompt Delivery. Moderate Prices.

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WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Second-hand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for particulars,
C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Hand-Sellers to Know that T. E. Simons, late Travelling Auctioneer, is the Cheapest Man for all Kinds of Swag Clocks, Bronzes, Field Glasses, Jewellery, &c. Second-hand Watches for Auctioneers. All Goods. Ready for Sale. Cheap Watches suitable for Working the Spot.
Send for List.
117, Houndsditch, London, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Electrical Specialities.
SIMPKIN, WILKINSON, and GIBSON,
66, Kirkstall-road, Leeds,
Manufacture Dynamos, Arc Lamps, Switchboards, &c., Specially for Showmen. Also Stock Cable, Globes, Carbons, Incandescents, and Every Requisite.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that Leete's Colours and Varnishes are the Best and Cheapest in London. Vermillionettes, Permanent Reds, Carmines, Carriage and Copal Varnishes, Gold Leaf, Brushes, &c., and every Decorator's Requisite for Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Write for price list or call, Leete's Colour Works, 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Showmen's Painting, Scenery, Switchback, or showcloths; Transparencies, War, or any Subject; Good, Cheap. Roundabouts, Horses, Swings contracted for. Studio, Rupert-lane.
Address, J. DAVIS, 128, Upper Beau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces in Pleasure Grounds. Popular Seaside Town. Suitable for Shooting Gallery, Novelty and better-class Side Shows and Amusements.
For terms,
apply, DURIAN, 24, Hop Exchange, Southwark-street, S.E.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces to Stall-holders and others (Low rentals), at the Kursaal, Southend.
H. E. BRAMMALL, Crystal Palace.

WANTED, Known, through misunderstanding, I have Small Space to Let (Summer Season) Optician or Monograms do well.
STEWART, Revolving Tower, Great Yarmouth.

Seaforth Annual August Fair.
WANTED, Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, and Shooting Saloons, Stallholders, &c., to know Spaces now to Let for the above Fair, commencing July 29 till Aug. 6. Grounds reserved on receipt of Deposit; also Spaces now to Let per route. Apply, H. WALLIS, Seaforth. P.S.—Look out for the Big Event.

WANTED, Known. — Preston.

To be Let,
on Rental or Shares,
Large Piece of Ground,
Situated in
Corporation-street.
Suitable
for
Pierrots
and Open-air Entertainments.
Address, WILL ONDA,
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Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
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Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
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EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal, at 1·30 o'clock, for
Marie Loftus, Roze and Calvert, Norman-Leonard Trio, Wilson Hallett, American Comedy Four, Lawrence Barclay, Mdlle. Lagreze, Northern Troupe, Nellie Vanderbilt, Katie Butler, Newhouse and Ward.

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Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
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Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Diane De Fontenoy, J. W. Rowley, Ella Dean, Bennett and Martell, Clemart, Eight of Hearts, Gintaro, Trio Jurgens, Geo. Gilbey.

EMPIRE THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
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Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
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EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·50 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Paul Cinquevalli, Chas. Morritt, The Lyons Trio, Geo. Formby, The Sisters Sprightly, Marguerite & Hanley, Bertram and Co., The Phydoras, The Hulines, Tray and Rich, Geo. Newburn.

EMPIRE, NEW-CROSS, LONDON, S.E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·40 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Karno's "Saturday to Monday," Griffiths Bros, Lucy Clarke, Damm Bros., Werner-Amoros Troupe, Seeley and West, Le Voce, Mark Anthony, Tiny Arnold.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD, LONDON, E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·45 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Mills and Rawlins, Will Evans, Rousby's "In Paris," Arthur Reece, Sisters O'Meers, Chas. Prelle, Albert and Edmunds, Earle and Earle, Allis and Cassati, Chas. Lilburn, Amy Sullivan.

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Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Brown, Le Clerq, and Company, Barton and Ashley, Frank and Jen Latona, Brothers Leslie, Three Missouris, Madame Emmy's Dogs, Booker and Narbis, the Langdons, the Smythsons, Alix Lukos.

PALACE THEATRE, LEICESTER.
Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for
Karno's "Dandy Thieves," Austin Budd, Spry and Austin, Foreman and Fannan, May Henderson, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, the Borellis, the Mayvilles, Vi Holmes.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Marie Kendall, Cecils, Frank Sylvo, Jessie Albini, Leggetts, Steve M'Carthy, Sisters Dacre, Ray Wallace, Lennard and White.

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MUSIC HALL CARDS.

Alphabetically Arranged—Limited to Three Lines

ABAATT, NAT, A.A.L. The newly appointed Vice-President of the Amalgamated Association of Liars at Gloucester.

ABADAROFFS, Prehistoric Mountebanks, Vacant June 20, 27; also July. Big Act for Galas. Splendid Litho. Address, 95, Stretford-road, Manchester.

ABDULLAH, ALMA, and LA SUPERBE. Permanent address, 155, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

ACTON, MR. FRED, Comedian, Disengaged. Stone Hall, Great Canfield, Dunmow, Essex.

ADAMS and BAMFORTH, Refined Instrumentalists, introducing the only Jhamphotophone in existence. Address, 34, Mortimer-st., Oldham

ADAMS and CO., Pyrotechnic Artists, Gala and Fête Agents, Illuminators and Decorators 62, Suffolk-street, Birmingham.

ADELINA, England's own Queen of All Facialists, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

ADRIENNES, THREE, Lady Vocalists, Dancers, and Whistlers. This week Queen's-park H., Manchester; next 1, Salisbury-st., Liverpool. Vac Mon.

ALASKAS, HARRY, Touring the Continent. 72, Waterloo-road, Manchester; or, Nathan and Somers.

ALBANO TROUPE, Five. Musical Speciality. Five. 88, Macdonald-street, Wavertree, Liverpool.

ALBERT, MISS LOTTIE, the Chic Comedienne. New Songs in Preparation by Mr Hermann Darewski. 46, Torrington-square, W.C.

ALBERT, THE SISTERS, Vocal Comedy Duettists and Dancers. Vac. for Panto. Second Boy and Girl. Offers invited. 80, Katherine-rd., East Ham.

ALBERT and ALBERT, Eccentric Aerial Boxers and Gymnasts. Good Agent Required for Vacant Dates. Address, care of "The Era."

ALBERTO, FRED, the Champion All-round Variety Performer. Tremendous success, the Palace, Derby. Vacant One Week, June 20. Wire.

ALBERY, HARRY, Eccentric Comedian and Dancer, at Liberty June 20 and 27. Wire or write, Monday next, Hippo, Norwich. Panto. Settled.

ALBINI, Society Comedian and Wonder-Worker Extraordinary, with his Charming Young Ladies. Return Monday. Palace, Croydon.

ALBINI, BLANCHE, next week. Palace, Croydon.

ALEXANDER'S, JOHN, Burlesque Company. Address, 55, Clapham-road S.W.

ALGIE, the Juggler; **ALGIE**, the Clown; Original and Novel Now Free. Address, Hippodrome, Carlisle.

ALVANTEE King of the Slanting Wire Liberty Monday; also ARIO, in Great Stage Trapeze Act. 65, Coral-street, Ardwick, Manchester.

ANDERSON, MATTHEW, Queen's Vaults. Professional Resort. "The Era" kept. 48, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

ANDERSON, MISS EDIE ("The Little Gem"), Terrific Success, Alhambra, Hull. Next, Regent, Salford.

ANDERSON'S AUSTRALIAN TWINS. Perfect wonder-workers with the skipping-rope.—Vide Oswald Stoll. 13, Middlesbrough.

ANDYS, FOUR, Smartest of all Risley and Double Somersault Artistes. London. Letters, 27, West-square, St. George's-road, London.

ARA, ZEBRA, and VORA, Monday Next, Metropolitan and Palace, Croydon, every Evening.

ARIZONAS, FOUR, Acrobatic Tumblers, Contortionist, and Staircase Hand-Balancers Hippodrome, Manchester.

ASHERS, THE (AGNES and LITTLE MIKE), big hit Nothampton. Monday, South London. The Dude and the Soubrette.

ASHLEY, BROTHERS, Laughing Success, Star and Norwood. June 13, Palace, Walthamstow. G. Barclay and Fortune and Granville.

ATTLAS and the Beautiful MISS VULCANA, Great Success, Starring Tour through Australia. Address, Tivoli, Sydney, Australia.

ATTILLA, BROTHERS, the Renowned Strong Men. Artistic Physical Strength. Lyric, Liverpool.

AUSTIN, RUMBO, in his New Budget of Comicalities. Grand, Clapham-junction.

AVRIGNYS, Great Jap Juggling Number. Most Versatile Act before the Public.

BAKER and BALFE, June 13. Queen's, Poplar.

BALSIGER, the Eighth Wonder, Theatre Royal, Preston, June 6; 13, Lyceum, Crewe; Tour, Messrs O'Connor and Brady.

BANCROFT, HARRY, Usual Success, South, Hammersmith, Walham-green, Balham. Next week, Empire, Portsmouth.

BANDON, SID, Chelsea and Grand, Clapham. All New Songs.

BARCLAY, GEORGE, and CO., Variety Agents. Telephone, 84, Streatham. 221, Brixton-hill, London, S.W.

BARD, GRACIE, Vocalist and Dancer, at Liberty Monday, June 13, and 20. Wire best offers to 20, King-street, Burnley. See Wanteds.

BARRETT and KNOWLES, Comedians. Monday, Empire, Nottingham. Vacant for Pantomime. Agents, Tom Shaw and Co.

BARRY, JOE; DAISY PYNE, Prince's Theatre, Preston. No Vacancies this Year.

BARTHOLOMEW, SISTERS (VIOLET and DAISY), the Ideal Pair. Queen's Palace, Rhyl, Second Week.

BARTLETT, MISS ROSIE, Empire, Middlesbrough. Next, Palace, Hull. Always Open to Buy Good Songs. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

BATHURST, SISTERS, Duettists and Dancers, Vacant June 13 and 20. Liberty Panto, Second Boy and Girl. 41, Simpson-street, Glasgow.

BAWN'S AGENCY, 10, Victoria-parade, Balham-hill, London, S.W. 'Phone, 178, Balham. Telegrams, "Orderless, London."

BEATRICE, SISTERS, this Week. Q, Poplar. Vacant Monday next, June 13 and 20. Address, 126, Drayton-park, Highbury. Durham's Agency.

BEES, THE TWO (HARRY and FLORA BLAKE), "Hiawatha" Scena. Great Success. June 13, Empire Theatre, Portsmouth.

BEKKER, HENRI, Comedy Conjuror, Big Success this, Metropole, Openshaw; next, City, Leeds. Best show of its kind.

BELLA LA PETITE, the coming Vesta Tilley. Britannia Theatre, London. Next Week, People's Palace, Bristol.

BELROSE and DE VELIN, Speciality Duettists. Thanks for Offers. Pantomime Settled, Prince's T., Bradford. Mon., Palace, Bradford.

BEN HUR, the Ideal Juvenile Athlete. Tremendous success last week, G., Clapham. All coms., 687, Commercial-rd., E.

BENET, HARRY, twice daily, Alexandra Gardens, Penzance.

BENT, HARRY, the Novel Mimic; also CARLOTTA LUNN, American Comedienne. June 13, Princess's Theatre, Preston.

BENTLEY, WALTER, Variety Agent, 169, Stamford-street, London, S.E.

BERNARD, GEO., "The Sage of Modern Music Halldom" "Wisdom is better than great valour" Monday, Granville T., Walham-green, London.

BEST, MR. CHARLES F., as M'Bunker "The Mountebank." Moss and Stoll Tour, Empire, Newport

BLANCHE and DIACOFF, Original Cycle Act. Fully Booked Return, Pavilion, Leicester. Howard and Johnson.

BLOUNT, ARTHUR, BLOUNT, a successful Comic Singer, Vacant Sept. 5 and 12. 51, Dorothy-road, S.W.

BLYTHE, MARIE, the Always Successful Contralto Vocalist. June 13, Gaiety, Chatham. Agents, S. M Hyman. Limited.

BODIE, ALBERT EDWARD WALFORD, Secretary, Bodie's Electric and Dental Institute, Macduff, N.B.

BODIE, DR. WALFORD. 175, Graham-road, Hackney, N.E.

BOHEMIANS, THE (WILL and MADGE), Musical and Comedy Artistes, this, Alhambra, Brighton; next, Palace, Southampton.

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME. Different from all others. June 13, Empire. Leicester.

BOSANQUET, EDMUND, in his Illuminated Excerpts Tivoli, Dublin. Return Visit. Cheered again and again. June 13, A., Belfast.

BOSTOCK, N. C., and NELLIE ELLIENE No Comic Singer ever made a greater hit at Hebburn, North, South Shields, and Newcastle.

BOULTONS, THE, and MDLLE. BARTENELLI, busy working Galas. Address, 138, Hamilton-road, Liverpool.

BOYLE, MARCUS, My Bonny Boy. Theatre Royal, Bury.

BRADLEY and TRUMAN. Regards to Frank Coyne, Carrie Joy, and Pat Rafferty. Red Lion, Costock, nine miles from Nottingham.

BRENTON, SISTERS, Refined Duettists and Expert Dancers. Monday, June 13, Queen's Palace, Gateshead.

BRETT, HARRY "The Nabob" "Cockney Chinaman," &c. Agent, B. Knight, 18, Highlever-rd., North Kensington.

BREWSTERS, THE, Sword and Lance Experts. This, Palace, Northampton; next, Argyle, Birkenhead.

BROADFOOTE, MARGUERITE, June 13 Pier Pavilion Eastbourne.

BROMLEY and FONTEIN, Operatic Humourists. June 13, Park Palace, Liverpool.

BROOKLANDS, THE (ETHEL and BELL), Dainty Comediennes and Dancers. Enormous success, A., Belfast. June 13, Parthenon, Liverpool.

BROOKS, ALF. Success, Broadhead's Hippodromes. This, Tivoli, Barrow. Vacant July 4 and 11.

BURG, HAUD, and WISE, "Ye Brown Cow Inn." Touring, South America.

BURGATILES, THE FOUR, Musical Pantomimists, Monday, Metropole Theatre, Manchester.

BURNELLS, Alhambra, Leicester-square, W.C. Return Visit.

BURNS, C. H., Versatile Vocalist Dancer, and Instrumentalist. Good Songs and Eight Splendid Instruments. Lib. Monday. 72, Berkin-av., Nottingham.

BURNS'S, HARRY, AGENCY, Empress T., Hartlepool. Telephone, 0.231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress." And at London and Manchester.

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BUSH, MISS SADIE, Contralto Vocalist. Liberty June 13, 20, onwards. Address, 66, Walkley-road, Walkley, Sheffield.

BUXTON, FREDERICK, Proprietor Original Douglas Pierrots. Seventh Year. The Acknowledged Troupe. The Money-makers.

CAINE, ANDIF, Comedian, London Pavilion. Andie Caine's Pierrots open July 4, Filey.

CAMBO, the Musical Monkey at Liberty Al Fresco &c. Two Acts. Wire or write, 59, Urquhart-road, Aberdeen.

CAMERON, GREAT, Kerchief King, Artistic Magic Act. Secure me. June 13, Theatre Royal, Bury. Sley or Cadle.

CARL and CARR, Refined Comedians and Dancers, still Vacant for First-class Pantomime Great success, Pavilion, Mablethorpe, Lincs., for Season.

CARLTON, HENRY, the Popular Comedian, and his Renowned Comedy Team. Thanks J. F. Elliston, Esq., for Contracts. Palace, Tottenham.

CARNEY, TOM, South Coast Tour Monday, Walham-green. At Lib. July, August for Piers. Letters, 13, Hollingsworth-street, Holloway, N.

CARR and ROSE (FRED and ADA), the Vocal Comedy Couple, "The Cockney Yanks." Albert, Canning-town and Hammersmith.

CARY, FRED, Comedian. London Pavilion and Star.

CAVILL'S AGENCY. 15, Hotham-street, London-road, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Overture, Liverpool." Telephone, 2,140, Royal.

CECIL, TOM, Comedian Concluding Seven Months' Scotch Concerts. P., Tottenham, Aug. 1 Letters, Tom Cecil, Aberdeen; or, Agents.

CHARD'S DOG CIRCUS, One Great Act. Assembly Rooms, Briton Ferry. No reply from M. D. What reason?

CHARMAN, MASTER JACK, the Sweet-Voiced Boy Vocalist. June 13, Empire, South Shields. Geo. Barclay and Foster and Granville.

CHARNLEY, SISTERS (ANNIE and EDIE) Monday, Return, Alhambra, Sandgate.

CHERRY, FRED, Comedian, Sing and Dance, thanks Horgan Armadale, Esq., for 280 nights. Dis. June 27. This, Eastbourne; next, Bournemouth.

CHINKO, Provincial Tour. Communications, 44, Pentney-road, Balham, S.W.

CHIRGWIN, Resting. Ascot Week.

CLARENCE and BELL, Comedians. June 13th, Hippodrome, Grimsby.

CLARIBELL, FLORRIE, Tyrolean Songstress, Monday next, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

CLEMENTS, SISTERS (DAISY and GRACIE), This, Collins's; next, Hammersmith. 131, Peckham-rye, London, S.E.

CLEOPATRA, the Serpent Enchantress now on her Second Grand Tour around South Africa.

CLEVELANDS, THE FIVE, Monday, Empress, Brixton. Vacant June 20.

CLIFTON, MAUDE, Descriptive and Ballad Vocalist. Monday, June 13, Empire, Burnley.

CLYDES, THE (AMY and EVIE), this week, E., Bow, 7 0 and 10·50; P., Greenwich, 8·40. Monday next, Palace, Tottenham (Return).

COATES, ALICE, Comedienne. "Come home, Bill Bally, for I want you all to myself," by Chas. Collins. Palace, Northampton. Agent, Pacey.

COLLINS, MISS LOTTIE (Mrs James W Tate), All coms., to 18, Albermarle-mansions, Holloway, N.

COLLINS, TOM, and BEATIE KENT, through unforeseen circumstances at Liberty for Early Dates. 17, Osborne-terrace, Clapham-road.

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CONYERS, CISSIE, Vocalist and Pianiste. Tom Owen's Pierrots, The Mumbles, Swansea.

COOKE, STEVE, Comedian, Opera House, Doncaster. Vacant Pantomime Thanks for offers.

CORNISH, WILL, in his Unique Musical Bell Act. This week, Empress, Hartlepool; next, Grand, Stockton (Third Return).

COVERDALE, WIT, Tremendous receptions at Palace, Southampton, with a Seventeen-minute Talking Show. June 13, P., Bath.

COWPER, VERNON, 9 30, Palace Theatre, London.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG. A Novelty with Drawing Powers. Continental Tour. Vacant Aug. 15. 10, Douro-place, Edge-lane, Liverpool.

CRANKS, ORIGINAL, Burlesque and Sensation Cyclists. Vacant June 20. Big success, P., Belfast. Agent, Edgar Stebbings, Manchester.

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Transformation and Character Dancer, Staley's Novelty Company, Tivoli Theatre, Cape Town.

CRESSWELLS, Expert Mandolinists, Vocalists. Own Sketches "Power of Song," &c. St. James's, Manchester. 77, Bristol-street, Manchester.

CREWE, J. H., and MAUD MARLOW, Conclude To-night scene of former Triumphs, G. T., Colchester. Chappell's Concerts, Great Yarmouth.

CULLANE TRIO, THE, in "The Dude's Dilemma." Big hit Empire, Burnley. Next week, Queen's-park, Manchester. "Mind the Bull."

CURTIS, MR. WALTER, the Humorous Entertainer. The Tower, New Brighton.

DAGMARS, THREE, Acrobats, Equilibrists, and England's Greatest Tumblers, at Liberty for June 20 and 27. Address Queen's Palace, Rhyl.

DALE and D'ARGAN, Acrobatic Conjurors, in a Novel and Original Act, "Le Café Magique." Vacant Monday. Wire, Empire, Wrexham.

DALTON'S AGENCY. Star Acts of all Kinds always Required. 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

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D'ARAIGNEE, TOLL, Human Spiders, Thank F. Higham for Stoll and Moss Tours. Great success Queen's, Gateshead.

DARE'S MINSTRELS, Douglas, I.O.M., Eleventh Season. Charles Dare's Co. Play to larger audiences than any other Entertainment in the island.

DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE, Trick Cyclists. Monarchs of the Wheel. This, Grand, Clapham-junction; next, Palace, Derby.

DAVIS, RYDER, and EVA WARD Finish To-night, usual success. T. Ramsdale Entertainments. Monday, Return, P., Greenwich.

DAY'S VARIETY AGENCY, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C. Tel., 6,915, Ger. Tele., "Terpsichore, London."

DAYTON FAMILY, THE, Pedestal Risley Performers. June 13, Tivoli, Copenhagen, Denmark.

DE DIO, The Peerless, in "Terpsichore's Dream." Orpheum, Frankfort à Maine. Agent, Tom Shaw.

DE GRACIA'S Assam Elephants. Finest Elephant Acts, "Cricket" and "Le Coiffeur," Empire, Dudley.

DELEVINES, FIVE, New Act "Flirtation." Granville, Walham-green, and Grand, Clapham.

DENT, BERT, Manager, Palace Theatre, Greenwich, S.E.

DE ROSE, MDLLE., and J. H. HAWTREY, the Lady Foil, Actor-Vocalist, Grand, Sheffield.

DE VENA, MDLLE., Unique Lady Juggler and Club Manipulator. No immediate Vacancies. Agent, Will Sley, Manchester.

DEVEREUX'S Famous Troupe of Dogs at Liberty June 27, July 11, and 25, for Galas, Piers, &c. Queen's Theatre, Longton

DE VOYE, JIMMY and BILLY, the most Wonderful Educated, Performing Pony breathing. Permanent address, 10, Duke-street, Eastbourne.

DIAMONDS, THE, Knife Throwers, and SYLVESTER, Negro Comedian. Two Turns. Liberty shortly. Buffalo Bill's Wild West, High Wycombe.

DIXON, CHARLEY; KATE LYND, Monday next, Hippodrome, Sheerness. Hippodrome, Sheerness, Monday next.

DODDY and BELLE, the Great Comedy Couple. The Long and Short of it. Now Disengaged.

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, Singing Cardboard Box-makers, hit of the Programme, Barnard's Palace, Greenwich. Next, Royal, Holborn.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, the Dainty Singing Maiden. Always Pleasing. London Nightly.

DOVER, CLIFFE, Comedian Finish To-night. Hippodrome, Queen's-park. Monday next, Metropole Theatre, Manchester. Panto settled.

DOVER SISTERS, Up-to-date Duettists and Dancers. Good Songs, Splendid Dresses, Good Voices. Agents, Chester and Co.

DUBOIS, JAMES, Barrasford Tour.

DUNCAN, Club Manipulator and Juggler; OSWALD, Staircase Performer and Hand Jumper, Liberty Monday. Wire, 79, Bridson-st., Weaste, Manch'ter.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 2,477, Hop. 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

DU ROCHE, MDLLE., Operatic Soprano, this week, Grand, Gravesend; next week, Empire, Bow. Sole Agent, Walter Bentley.

EILEEN and MAYNIE, Musical Dancing Dots, Queen's Theatre, Leeds. Liberty June 27, through postponing.

ELEONORA, Lady Gymnast; also LA BELLE TOSCA. Two or Three Acts. For Dates and terms, address, 36, Bridge-street, Macclesfield.

ELLA'S, MISS, best existing Lion Show. June 13, Grand Theatre, Stockton.

ELLERTON, Songs, Sketches, Stories, Latest for Dunville, Sheridan, Reece, Leamore, &c. 19, Pulrose-road Brixton.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

ELLIS, MISS MARIE, Comedienne and Dancer. Immediate Dates required. Wire, Albion Restaurant, Leeds.

ELMORE, BELLE, Charming Comedienne, Monday next, Palace, Northampton.

ELTONS, TWO, Triple Horizontal Bar Comedians. Liberty June 20 and 27. Palace, North Shields.

ELVIRA, AMY, Burlesque Artiste, at Liberty Panto., Principal Boy. Permanent address, 67, Swinton-street, London, W.C.

ELVO and EVLYN, a Smart Couple, in a Smart Duologue. Doing Smart Business in Dublin. Next, Palace, Belfast.

EPLETT, JESSIE, Character Vocalist, Solo Drummer, and Speciality Dancer. Next, Alhambra, Sandgate. Vacant June 27. Ad., 3, Ivy-lane, Hoxton, N.

ESCALADERS, THREE, Hand Balancers and Double Ladder Experts. Communications, 15, Harford-st., St. James's, Bristol.

ESDALE, BROTHERS, Vacant Sept. 12 and 19. Address, 166, Shrewsbury-st., Brooks's Bar, Manchester.

EVANS, WILL. Business-Manager, Harry Poole. Tel., 165, Richmond.

FAWN, ADA. Big Success of "Band of Gold," by George Collins, Monday next, June 13, Resting. Letters, 15, Inglewood-grove, C.-on-M., Manchester.

FIELDING, ANNIE, and BERT HULL sail for South Africa, July 9th. Monday, Empire, Burnley.

FIELDS and ACRES, The Park Keepers. The Keepers of Novelty in the Park of Originality. Coms., Royal Music Hall, Liverpool. Keep off the grass.

FIELDS and LEWIS, Vaudeville Stars. Latest Screaming Novelty, Picture Postcards (reg) Vac June 20. Wire, 154, Broughton-lane, Manchester.

FINDEN, EDIE and HAROLD, "A Desperate Remedy." Empire, Bradford. Geo. Barclay.

FIONI'S, JAMES, AGENCY, The Laurels, Derwent-road, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." Telephone, 31, Old Swan.

FLORADORA GIRLS, Enormous Success everywhere. No Vacancies. Panto. settled, F. Mouillot, Esq. Com., Monday, Pavilion, Leicester.

FLORIZELL, Unapproachable. A Series of New and Startling Sensational Feats, Gymnastic Contortionist. Head of them all. Palace, Glasgow.

FORD and HANSON, the American Musical Millionaires, on voyage home from America. Address, Midland Hotel, Hull.

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE, Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams, "Waggishly." Telephone, 1,309, Gerrard.

FOX, G. D., Musical Director, Composer, and Arranger, 134, Queen's-park-road, Brighton.

FOX and MELVILLE, the Great Transatlantic Song Illustrators. Empire, Portsmouth.

FRANCE and FRANCIS, Comedians and Grotesques. Liberty June 20, 27. Wire, 38, River-street, Balsall Heath, Birmingham.

FRANCISCO, Juggler; and MAY MOODIE, Piccolo Soloist, Vacant Monday and June 20. 31, Clyde-st., Leicester. July 4, E., Middlesbrough.

FRASETTIS, LES, Empire Palace, Johannesburg. Address, 9, Ardilaun-road, Highbury, N.

FREDRICKS', CARL, Royal Olympian Concert Party. Established 1892. Always successful and well booked ahead. Pier Pavilion, Teignmouth.

FREELAND, MR. FRANK, Raconteur, Singer, Instrumentalist. Liberty June 13. 154, Robertson-street, Clapham, S.W.

FRENCH'S, GEORGE, TROUPE, and the SNOW FAMILY, on Tour. For Vacant Dates, address, 14, Second-avenue, Queen's-park, London, W.

GANNON, NELLIE. Taking Summer Holiday at Home, Derwent House, Buller-road, Leicester. HARRY WRIGHT, ditto, Gardening.

GEE, FRANK, Hippodrome, St. Helens.

GERALDO, Club Juggler. E., Birmingham; next, S., Liverpool. No Vacancies.

GERRARD, MARIE, the Chic Comedienne. Big Success, Empire, Winchester; Monday next, 13th, Grand, Clapham.

GERTRELLA, Dancer-Gymnast, in New Act. June 13, Empire, Sheffield.

GILL, ARTHUR, the Original Double-Voiced Yokel Comedian. A man with many voices.—Vide Press. Monday, Bristol. Birmingham to follow.

GILMORE, ROBB, the Great Funny Little Man. Address, Famous Merrie Men, Rhyl.

GIRARD, GILBERT, Animal and Instrumental Mimic, Agents, Fortune and Granville.

GLENN, MARY M., Premier Soprano Vocalist. On Barrasford Tour. Agent, Walter Munroe.

GOLD, HARRY, Character Comedian. June 13, Theatre Royal, Warrington. Manager, Ramsgate and Margate Pierrots.

GOLIATH and WALFORD. GOLIATH, the Strongest Youth in the World. Vac. 13 and 20. Wire, Walford. 1, Frogmore-terrace, Tenby.

GRACIOS, LOS TRIOS, Equipoise, Acrobatic, and Novel Trapeze Act. Grace and Skill. Nothing stereotype. Palace, Lincoln.

GRAHAM, ERIC, Author, Composer. 16, West Wynford-street, Weaste, Manchester.

GRANT and ALLEN, Comedians, in a complete New Funny Scene. At Liberty July 11. 43, Marquess-road, London, N.

GRAY, MR. GEORGE, Address, Savage Club, W.C.

GULLIVER, Ventriloquist, just Concluded Own Tour. This, P., Croydon; Next Three Weeks, Happy Valley, Southend. All Complete, 1904.

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MR. FREDERICK HARKER
Disengaged Autumn.
Berkeley, Chester-road, Erdington, Birmingham.

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Offers Invited for Summer and Autumn.
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Major Tarver, "Dandy Dick."
At Liberty Autumn Opera House, Harrogate.

MR. W. S. HARTFORD,
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Disengaged. Strong Character Parts.
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MR. and MRS. T. P. HAYNES
(Miss Rosie Lewis),
Borough Theatre, Stratford.

MR. GALWEY HERBERT,
Returning Home shortly from Tour in Australasia and South Africa.

MR. DALZIEL HERON.
A Butcher, in "The Money-Makers."
June 20, Coronet Theatre, W.

MR. THOMAS HILL,
Re-engaged by Arthur Milton, Esq., for Advance Management Autumn. "Hot Night" Tour.

MR. HARRY HILLER
Disengaged.
13, Maude-terrace, Walthamstow.

MR. ALFRED HILLIARD
at Liberty for Autumn.
Vale House, Delph, Lancs.

MR. A. T. HILTON
Disengaged, Old Men, &c.
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MR. BALIOL HOLLOWAY, Dr. Caius,
Laertes, Mark Antony, Banished Duke, Beauseant, &c. Permanent, Weirmaye, Langham-road, Teddington.

MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD, Engaged for Stage Society's next Production. Otherwise, Dis. for the present. 86, The Drive, Fulham-park-gardens, S.W.

MR. FRANCIS HOPE
Lieut. Archibald Lambton, "The Houp-La Girl."
Prince's Theatre, Manchester.

MR FRANK HOWARD,
Business-Manager, "Rogues and Vagabonds."
June 20, Theatre Roy-l, Merthyr.

MR. GEORGE HOWARD,
Engaged to Understudy Mr Terry,
Terry's Theatre.

MR. LEONARD HOWE
Disengaged for a Few Weeks.
Actors' Association.

MR. CHARLES HOWITT,
concluded with Mr Tree's "Eternal City" Co. Dis. for Summer and Autumn. 88, Brockley-road, New-cross.

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at Liberty. Juveniles and Light Comedy.
Brentwood, Hendon, N.W.

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Disengaged.
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MR. ERNEST E. IMESON, This Week,
Title-rôle, "Professor's Love Story," Southend.
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"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer,' by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as "the Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright, and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman, July 31st, 1901

Mr A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required!—St. James's Gazette, Aug. 2d, 1901.

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr Albert A. Strong's new work entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what is possibly is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chace Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee, July 28th, 1901

Those who are interested in "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" will derive much valuable intelligence by reading Mr Albert Strong's book bearing the above title, published at "The Era" Office.—Pelican, Aug. 3d, 1901.

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UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS.

Royal County Theatre,
Kingston-on-Thames.
April 23, 1904.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904

The veteran J. L. Toole has a good story in "The Era" Annual (49, Wellington-street, Strand) a publication which is highly valued by all who have anything to do with the stage. He says:—I was once playing in "Dearer than Life" with Irving and Billington at Leeds. After the performance several gentlemen were in the general room of the hotel where we were staying, and among them a certain Mr Jones, who professed to have a large acquaintance in the profession, and who appeared to have a local reputation as a judge of ages.

"Well, how old," said someone, "would you take Mr Toole to be?'

"Well," said he, "sixty-five, if he's a day."

"Do you know him?" I asked.

"Oh, yes; I know him very well indeed."

"Ah! and how old should you take me to be?"

"Well, I should take you to be forty, if you're a day."

Irving asked Mr Jones if he didn't think Mr Toole was nearer seventy-five than sixty-five. "No," he said; "sixty-five, if he's a day," and the company present seemed to put it down that that would be my age. They had most of them been to the theatre and seen me—for the first time probably—playing an old man; and as it was my first visit to the town, and we were going on by the mail train that night, I had I fancy not to go away and leave them under the impression that I was this very old gentleman. a found that Jones was a decent sort of fellow, and I said to Irving that before I went I should just give him my card and let him know what a mistake he had made. By and bye, when our cab arrived, we said good night to our casual acquaintances, and, taking Mr Jones aside, I handed him my card, whereupon he said "Oh, indeed!" in a very offensive manner, turned upon his heel, and walked away.

"Well," I said to my friends as we drove away, "that's the most impertinent fellow I think I ever met." Whereupon Billington and Irving went into fits of laughter, and confessed that they had warned Mr Jones that I was continually passing myself off as Toole, and he was to be quite prepared for my handing him a card and trying the imposition upon him.—Leeds and Yorkshire Mercury, Friday, Jan. 22d, 1904.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.

"The Era" Annual, 1904, contains, as usual, many items and statistics of use and interest to all connected with the stage, and, in addition, a number of sketches and short stories by leading artistes, managers, and others. Among the contributors are J. L. Toole, Dan Leno, George R. Sims, George Robey, Huntley Wright, Harry Randall, Bransby Williams, A. W. Pinero, Louie Freear, Little Tich, George Mozart, and Douglas Crichton. The publication is cheap at a shilling.—Birmingham Daily Gazette, Jan. 16th, 1904

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.

"The Era" Annual, 1904, reappears with all the features that to metropolitan and provincial playgoers make it invaluable as a work of reference. It again contains a list of new plays and important revivals at the London and suburban theatres, with dates of production to the end of November; new plays submitted in the provinces; the theatrical, musical, and equestrian obituary for the year; and other stage matters concerning which information is often desired. Each branch is excellently classified. What may, for convenience sake, be termed the "useful" portions of the "Annual" are sandwiched by forty short stories by popular actors and entertainers, the interest of these contributions being increased by autographs and portraits.—Daily Chronicle, Jan. 16th, 1904.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904

"The Era" Annual for the current year preserves all the features which have made it popular among actors and actresses in the past—short stories, some of them very good and some of them not so good, by well-known entertainers, countless photographs, and a list of plays produced during the year which should make it useful to students of stage history. It is a sign of the times that Omar Khayyam should be quoted on the first page of the almanack.—Morning Post, Jan. 23d.

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10. NEW GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.—Tip-up Chairs.
11. NEW GRAND OPERA HOUSE, HARROGATE.—Magnificent Embroidered Tableau Curtains.
12. PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, GRIMSBY.—Complete Reseating, including New Stalls and Dress Circle Chairs.
13. NEW CHAPEL, BATH.—Upwards of 500 Tip-up Chairs.
14. NEW FIRST-CLASS DINING SALOON, L. and N. W. RAILWAY COMPANY.—Specially designed Tip-up Chairs.
15. THEATRE ROYAL, GLOUCESTER.—Complete Reseating, including DEAN'S Patent Tip-up Pit Seats.
16. THE VICTORIA PIER PAVILION, BLACKPOOL.—Reseating with Tip-up Chairs.
17. THE NEW PIER PAVILION, FOLKESTONE.—Reseating with Tip-up Chairs.
18. EMPIRE HUDDERSFIELD.—New Tip-up Stall Chairs, Cork Carpets, &c.
19. NEW OXFORD THEATRE, MIDDLESBROUGH.—Refurnishing and Reseating, &c.
20. NEW TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.—New Stall Chairs.
21. EMPIRE, CLEETHORPES, GRIMSBY.—Complete Reseating.
22. NEW PUBLIC HALL, RUGBY.—Complete Seating.
23. NEW EMPIRE, GIBRALTAR.—Complete Furnishing, including upwards of 700 Tip-up Chairs and Seating for 2 000 people.
24. ST. JAMES'S THEATRE, MANCHESTER.—New Patent Tip-up Seating, &c.
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26. NEW GRAND PAVILION, BARMOUTH.—Complete Furnishing, including upwards of 600 Tip-up Chairs.
27. MUSIC HALL, PEMBROKE DOCK.—Seating.
28. NEW GRAND THEATRE, NORWICH.—Complete Furnishing, including upwards of 400 Tip-up Chairs.
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33. NEW HALL, REDCAR.—Seating.
34. NEW THEATRE, DUNFERMLINE.—Tip-up Chairs.
35. NEW GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.—Reseating with Tip-up Chairs
36. NEW BRITANNIA PALACE, GLASGOW.—Complete Reseating.
37. NEW QUEEN'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.—Complete Reseating.
38. NEW THEATRE, COLNE, LANCS.—Reseating with Tip-up Chairs.
39. THE NEW GRAND STAND, AINTREE, LIVERPOOL.—Complete Seating with Tip-up Chairs.
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42. NEW HIPPODROME, WAKEFIELD.—Tip-up Chairs.
43. QUEEN'S THEATRE, LEEDS.—Tip-up Chairs.
44. NEW THEATRE, EXETER.—Tip-up Chairs.
45. GRAND THEATRE, YORK.—Furnishing, &c.
46. NEW SEA BATHS, SKEGNESS.—Seating.
47. NEW PALACE OF VARIETIES, DERBY.—Tip-up Chairs.
48. THEATRE ROYAL, OLDHAM.—Tip-up Chairs.
49. NEW VICTORIA HALL, CHELTENHAM.—Tip-up Chairs.
50. NEW TOWN HALL, CHELTENHAM.—The whole of the Tip-up Chairs.
51. NEW TOWN HALL, BURTON-ON-TRENT.—The whole of the Tip-up Chairs.
52. NEW OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.—Complete Seating.
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55. NEW HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.—Upwards of 700 yards of Wilton Carpet.
56. NEW HIPPODROME NORWICH.—New Tableau Curtains, &c.
57. KING'S THEATRE, WALTHAMSTOW.—New Tableau Curtains, &c.
58. NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.—New Stall Chairs, &c.
59. THE OPERA HOUSE, CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM.—Complete Reseating, including 1,200 feet of DEAN'S Patent Tip-up Pit Seating.
60. NEW GRAND THEATRE, FALKIRK.—Complete Seating, including DEAN'S Lift-up Pit Seating.

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2. THE NEW PAVILION THEATRE, GLASGOW.
3. THE NEW PALACE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
4. THE NEW LYCEUM THEATRE OF VARIETIES, GLASGOW.
5. THE NEW GRAND HIPPODROME, WIGAN.
6. THE NEW TIVOLI THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
7. THE NEW PIER PAVILION, ST. ANNE'S-ON-SEA.
8. THE NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE, TIPTON.
9. THE NEW HIPPODROME, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
10. THE NEW GRAND THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
11. THE NEW STAR THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
12. THE NEW COURT THEATRE, WARRINGTON.
13. THE COMPLETE SEATING OF THE NEW ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION, RAMSGATE (for the Corporation of Ramsgate). This Contract gained in Advertised Competition.
14. NEW THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
15. THE VICTORIA THEATRE, NEATH, S. WALES.
16. THE MEMORIAL THEATRE, STRATFORD-ON-AVON.
17. THE NEW QUEEN'S PALACE, RHYL.
18. THE VICTORIA PIER PAVILION, FOLKESTONE.
19. NEW HIPPODROME, LOWESTOFT.
20. NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.—Complete Refurnishing and Decorations.
21. NEW GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Complete Refurnishing and Decorations.
22. NEW METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.—Complete Refurnishing and Decorations.
23. QUEEN'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.—Refurnishing and Decorations.
24. THE PALACE, TYNEMOUTH.—Redecorations and Reseating.
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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.

NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Z. Andrews.—Messrs Imbert and Wright's company is presenting *First-class* here this week. Mr Fred C. Imbert gives a powerful representation of Dan, a miser, and Mr Leonard Thackeray is a capable Lewis Montford, a gentleman thief. Mr Gerald Nolan is good as Mr Franklin; Mr Leonard Clarke is a manly Jack Stroud; Philip Roscoe has a capital exponent in Mr C. Mason Davidson; Mr Dick Seddon is amusing as Nosey; Peggy is cleverly portrayed by Miss Ellen Armour; Miss Isabel Innes is excellent as Mildred; Mrs Stroud is represented with true womanly feeling by Miss Emily Handley; and Miss Lizzie Ingles fills the part of Florence Franklin with ability.

ABERDEEN.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore; Acting-Manager, Mr H. C. Cavanah.—The play this week is *The World*, presented by the Arthurian company. Mr Percy Bell acts cleverly as Moss Jewell; Mr W. Edwyn Holloway is an admirable hero, and Mr Riddell Robinson is no less successful as the villainous younger brother. Special note may also be made of the acting of Miss Sidney Crowe as Mabel Hungerford and of Miss Maude Tremayne as Mary Blythe.

ACCRINGTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Barnes.—On Monday Messrs George Mitchell and John Belton's company opened here with *The Conscript*, with a powerful cast. Mr George Mitchell gives a masterly rendering of Karl Truevitch; Mr Fred H. Constable must be complimented upon his artistic impersonation of Count Hardiski; Dor Doggervitch is cleverly depicted by Mr J. Belton; Michael Andreitch is a smart embodiment by Mr Frank Harvey; Mr Walter Steele is good as Ivan Manloff; and Mr Frank Lilliput is an amusing Tretch Trotoff. Nadia Truevitch is an impressive performance by Miss Mary Dawson; Miss Ivy Chandos is always bright and sparkling as Wanda; and Dame Katinka is safe in the hands of Miss Maud Randford.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Clarence Saunes; Resident-Manager, Mr George E. Williams.—An excellent interpretation of *Zaza* is being given at the Aldershot theatre this week by Mrs Lewis Waller's company. The play is finely staged, and throughout the performance is a complete success. Miss Violet Fulton's conception of Zaza is admirable, her clever acting and fascinating manner combining to win her the success she achieves. Mr Eric Mayne gives a talented embodiment of Bernard Dufresne; Mr J. Spurling as the Duc De Brisac is commendable; whilst as Cascart Mr Edmund Lea is highly successful. Another capital impersonation is Mr Edmund Waller's Jacques. Miss Kate Kearney submits a skilful rendering of Rosa Bonne; and Miss Minnie Rayner is a useful maid, Nathalie. A clever young actress is Miss Nina Heathe, and she also displays musical ability on the piano. Miss Lena Macnaughton does well as Florianne; whilst Miss Alice Langley is a winsome Alice Morel and Miss Ethel Rainsforth is good as Lolotte. Miss Pauline Hague is acceptable as Madame Dufresne. Messrs Arthur White, George Haynes, Walter Leyland; Misses Lottie May, Mabel Turton, Madge Beresford, and Kitty Walter are seen in minor rôles. Mr Haldane Crichton is piloting the company for Mr Charles Frohman.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Fairbairn.—The popular Irish comedian, Mr J. Rice Cassidy, is revisiting here this week with the romantic musical drama, *Dan the Rake*. As Dan Dunraven Mr Cassidy is the typical Irish peasant, witty, rollicking, and full of Hibernian humour. He is admirably supported by Miss Lillian Clare as Madge, an Irish peasant girl. She plays the part with great vivacity of expression and alertness of manner. Admirable support is also given by other members of his company. Excellent delineations of character are those of Miss Florence Halton, Miss Ada Roscoe, and Messrs Frank Orchard, Frank Copeland, Charles H. Phelps, Harry Mason, Norman Hall, S. Crossley, G. Zane, Vincent Tom, Charles Crosby, and others.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmott.—This variety house continues to be a favourite resort. The two full programmes each evening are well patronised, and the artistes are always well selected. This week's programme includes Charles Vandyke's Troupe of pantomimists, who perform in the screaming absurdity, entitled *Sensations*. Good turns are also given by Florence Hill, the refined burlesque actress, and she supplements her serio ditties with some neat dancing. Herman arrests attention with some clever juggling and hoop manipulation. Bessie Lees, known as the coloured "Patti," warbles some sweet songs in good style. Frank Cumminger delights the lovers of step-dancing with his expert sand dance, and Frank Cass is a popular singing comedian. The Hippo. Bioscope projects some interesting pictures on the screen.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr George Stone.—Mr Horace Stanley's company, in *The* 10 30 *Down Express*, is here. He himself as Sam Wagstaffe is a picturesque A.B., and is exceedingly humorous. Mr Leslie Beaufort is a manly and dignified Jack O'Malley, and Mr Charles Boult an exceedingly clever James Inderwick. Bessie Leigh is prettily played by Miss Adelaide Claire; a capital portrait of Letitia Leigh is drawn by Miss E. Walton; and Peggy Potts is vivaciously played by Miss Kate Kilpack.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr Tom Whiting.—Mr F. V. St. Clair, who tops the bill here this week, is particularly well received, and his topical songs are much appreciated. The Sisters Silcott are a popular turn with their dainty songs and dances. The performance of the Di Pace Brothers on the mandolin is excellent. Charles Somers' quaint manner is amusing. Miss May Fallowfield is quite charming in her coon song and dances, and Miss Edith Sylvesto is a contortionist of considerable ability.

BLACKBURN.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. H. Page.—Miss Adria Hill and Mr Robert Ayrton's company is appearing here this week in the absorbing play, *The Price of Pleasure*. Mr Ayrton submits a powerful and convincing portrayal of Gilbert D'Armand, and Mr Charles Grant is distinctly successful as Sir James Featherstone. Sidney Roberts has an efficient representative in Mr Terence Bancroft; Mr T. Beecher is a capable John Blake; and Mr Charles A. Preece is very good as Tatters. Miss Adria Hill is excellent in her assumption of the rôle of Alice Rivers; Miss Evelyn Clare makes a charming Lilian Mordaunt; Miss Nellie Birchenough is conspicuous as Biddy Flanaghan; and Miss Ella Seton is a vivacious Polly Wilson.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Will Murray; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Drury.—Wilkie Bard tops the bill here this week, and his songs are received with tremendous enthusiasm. Flo Challis, vocalist, an old favourite, fully sustains her reputation; the Jackson Family are expert and artistic instrumentalists; Mabel Hind in her scena, *A Little Japanese*, is well received; Harry Zetter is a distinctly clever dancer; and Ada Whitton, male impersonator; Gus Hindell, comedian; and Amstell and Luie, in a sketch, complete the bill.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. C. Mitchell.—Mr Frank Bateman's company, in *At War with Women*, is here this week. Miss Lizzie Montague gives a fine embodiment of the difficult rôle of Auriel Romanoff, alias Countess Slavensky; Mr Clinton Baddeley comes in for a great share of applause as Baron Kirsh; Mr Horace E. Herbert is a manly Lieutenant Alexis; Count Clovitch is capably embodied by Mr T. H. Hammond; and the humour is contributed by Mr Shaun Glenville as Jerry Blake, the snapshot fiend, Mr Wynne Penwyn as Phocas, and Miss Bertha Leopold as Katinka.

BATH.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—So inclement was the weather the early part of the week that Mr Frank Macnaghten's vaudeville entertainment had to be transferred to his Palace Theatre, an arrangement that is to hold good when wet weather prevails. That accomplished ventriloquist Mr Nelson Hardy remains from last week, his long turn meeting with universal favour. The new-comers include Mr Charles Coverdale, a truly droll comedian; Miss Hettie Hills, a contralto vocalist of much merit; Mr Donald Keir, a baritone singer with a good voice; and the popular local tenor Mr Cadivor Davies, who is always cordially received. Mr Leslie's capital bijou orchestra gives several selections with pleasing results.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. Bryan Oliver; Acting-Manager, Mr E. Keene Oliver.—On Tuesday the renowned violinist Kubelik gave a recital at these rooms, when his marvellous playing created a profound sensation. Miss Martha Cunningham assisted with some admirable ballad singing. This was the final engagement under the old regime and lesseeship. During the next few months extensive alterations are to be carried out and the most modern improvements introduced.

BELFAST.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr John A. Walker.—The bill this week contains no fewer than ten turns, headed by the Charles Fisher miniature opera company, who produce with effect several scenes from *The Bohemian Girl*. The principal rôles are cleverly sustained by Miss Zella Lusana and Messrs Charles Fisher, E. Alger, and Geo. A Fox, and the rendering of "The heart bow'd down," "I dreamt I dwelt in marble halls," and other well-known songs during the course of the sketch affords the utmost pleasure. Another strong attraction is provided by Lavers and Lake's farcical sketch company, in *The Spectre of Mildew Chase*. The various rôles are ably sustained by Miss Queenie Lancaster, and Messrs Harry Lavers, Lew Lake, Robert Morris, and M. Roberts. Tom and Marie Motramo appear in their musical comedy act, which has quite hit the popular taste; Princess Pocahuntus is a sweet ballad vocalist; and Elvo and Evelyn appear to great advantage in their up-to-date speciality, *The Slavey and the Burglar*, which is a capital entertainment. Selbo is aptly described as the King of Clubs. His performance is extremely clever. Mr John E. Coyle is a smart comedian with funny songs, and a successful appearance has been made by Charlene and Charlene, whose juggling and musical entertainment is certainly first-class. Conan and Doyle, comedians and dancers, and Mr Bert Woodward, a clever cycling coon, complete the programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brock.—At the top of the bill here is Lind, whose impersonations are most realistic. Messrs Wm. Lee and company appear in a capital little comedy entitled *A Tooth for a Tooth*, the various rôles being capitally sustained by Miss Helen Bentley, and Messrs Wm. Lee, John Zanger, and Geo. Graham. Mr J. W. Rickaby's character songs have been hugely enjoyed, and Miss Jessie Burnett is an accomplished comedienne and dancer. The New Macs are funny comedians and capital dancers, and the Dorrells, duettists, display exceptional ability as dancers. Francis and Melli appear in their musical novelty act, "Brigands," their manipulation of several musical instruments being undoubtedly clever. The Four Elysians, coloured vocalists, and Miss Rosie Lloyd, a charming comedienne, complete the programme.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—The leading attraction at this popular hall is the juggling performance furnished by Troba. The Five Bon-Bons appear to advantage in their pantomime sketch, *Not Time for One*, the fun being fast and furious. Little Barney is a clever comedian, and Miss Lena Brunton, comedienne, gives several realistic impersonations. Weisker Brothers' Bioscope provides some new pictures; Bosanquet, violinist, delights all with his clever performance; the Two Wills submit a marvellous equilibristic performance; their clever feats being hailed with enthusiasm; Mr J. G. Hewson's baritone songs have been much appreciated; and others appearing are Miss Gracie Lawn, comedienne and dancer, and Mr Arthur Beecham, comedian.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Mrs Charles Clifford's company in *On Circumstantial Evidence* commands extensive patronage. Miss Maud Camfield is seen to advantage as Violet Ogilvy, a part to which she does full justice. Mr Charles Clifford is in every respect an excellent Captain Hamilton; and the rôle of Antonio is suitably acted by Mr Lincoln Calthorpe. Other characters are well impersonated, and the piece is creditably staged.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—Miss Queenie Leighton, the popular and accomplished burlesque artiste, worthily heads an admirable company. Prominent turns are also given by the Four M.P.'s (the Musical Palmers), whose clever instrumentalism is one of the features of the evening; the O'Malleys, variety artistes; Craig, Roze, and Craig, a smart gymnastic trio; the Brewsters, vocalists and acrobatic dancers; Mr Dion Wade, comedian; Miss Daisy Almer, serio and dancer; Ray and Miles, acrobatic and musical grotesques; and Spot, the enchanted coon, in an elaborate cake-walk display.

BOLTON.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Kenyon.—This week Miss Olga Audre's company, including the Four Aces, the acrobatic marvels, is appearing in the drama *The Mockery of Marriage*.

BOOTLE.

ROYAL MUNCASTER THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Pennington; Manager, Mr H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert E. Wilson.—*At War with the World* is the attraction here this week. Mr George Lyttleton as Tom Redfern is excellent. Mr Alec Mahew as Thornton Westmeare gives a strong impersonation. Mr J. F. Lewis as Gregory Blotts is amusing and keeps the house in good humour. Miss Lilian Beaumont is a distinguished representative of Edna Maddox, and Miss Jane Massey supplies a characteristic performance of Mrs Leslie. The scenery and stage effects are admirable.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs Bennett; Manager, Mr John Waller.—The Ediscope and Barnum's company is here this week with a fine show of electric animated pictures, the scenes depicting the war being specially good. A good company of star artistes includes Poole and Poole, acrobatic dancers; Miss Florrie Brooklyn, lady top-boot dancer; Musical Carlettie, Carl Osmond, lighting cartoonist; Lily Martel, acrobatic dancer; Three Funnyossities, sketch artistes; Pulo, boy juggler; Clown Ohmy with his performing dog; Will Ivor, high stilt performer; T. E. Moet, "the acrobatic madman;" and the Singing Lancashire Mill Hand.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry Johnston.—The new musical comedy *Where's Uncle?* was presented here on Monday, when the company, which includes several favourites, showed to much advantage. These comprise Mr Frank Danby, who makes of the part of Gibson Gallivant a hugely diverting personage; Mr T. W. Volt as Captain Archie Graham, which character he plays with all his accustomed success and ability; Miss Nellie Bouverie, who, as the waitress, proves herself a humourist of the first order; Mr Stephen Adeson as Slatem; Mr Milroy Cooper as Angus M'Nab; and Miss Minnie Hunt, whose charming manner and rich vocalism is well employed as Dorothy.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Lester Collingwood.—The new drama, *Alone in China*, is described in another column.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—*The Shaughraun* has shown Mr Matt Wilkinson's stock company to much advantage this week, and Mr Matt Wilkinson as that "bould bhoy" himself has fulfilled all expectations. Capt. Molineux has found a worthy exponent in Mr M. Morley Carroll; Robert Ffolliott is well presented by Mr Tom Dowling; Mr H. Macdonald scores as Father Dolan; and Messrs Oswald Lingard and W. Gardiner realise the characters of Corry Kinchela and Harvey Duff. Miss Madge Blundell is sweet and sympathetic as Arte O'Neale, Mrs Matt Wilkinson is graceful as Claire Ffolliott, and Miss Beatrice Wilkinson as Moya is admired by all.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard. — *Mr Barnes of New York* was presented here on Monday, in a new and revised form, by Messrs Alf Paumier and Walter Howard's company, and met with unqualified success. Mr Walter Howard fills the important rôle of Burton Barnes with satisfactory results. Miss Ellen Snow as Marita Paoli, the young Corsican heiress, gains the fullest admiration. Miss Muriel Inglis acts true to the character of the English girl, Enid Anstruther; and Miss Alice Neilson is successful in portraying the fair American, Maud Charteris. Mr Sydney Pease appears as Count Darella; Mr Hy. Beaufort plays the old servant, Tomasso; and Mr Herbert Humber acquits himself well as the hero.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr A. W. Matcham.—An exceptionally bright programme is drawing packed houses this week. Henry Lee causes quite a furore with his impersonations, "Great men—past and present;" Alexandra Dagmar contributes songs with her usual success; the Automatos cause roars of laughter with their absurdity, "Fun in a Museum;" the Howards in a musical entertainment; Little Fred with his performing dogs; J. A. Wilson, Michael Nolan, and R. W. Bentley, comedians; Dora Lyric and May Milburn, comediennes; Little Fred with his dogs; and Hill and Whittaker in a banjo speciality are in the bill.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Albert Bushell.—This popular house has had large houses this week, Harriett Vernon being the principal attraction. Jean Seul mystifies the audience with his illusion; Edie Rivers is loudly applauded, her songs being well rendered; Frank Coyle, Chippe, and Keen, and Joe Humphreys keep the house in a merry mood with their songs; Barton and Franklin are first-class vocalists; and Gwennie Hasto is a dainty comedienne, whose dances are executed in an artistic manner.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford.—The Meers, in their eccentric wire act, are topping the bill this week. Weiland, juggler, puts plenty of comedy into his entertainment and is exceedingly smart. The Three Seldoms, model athletic statue artists; T. B. Fayme; T. E. Finglas; the Bros. Lang; and Haig and Novel, comedians, are entertaining. Emma Don and company, in their vocal scena, and Mary M. Glenn, vocalist, evoke much applause.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Acting-Manager, Mr Geo. Foster.—Miss Dinah Morris, with her troupe of Southern State artistes, in the musical scena, *The Lost Coon*, is at the head of the attractive bill here this week. Les Durvals give a clever horizontal bar act; Clown Ferreros in his musical novelty is entertaining; the singing and dancing of the Four Olympians are loudly applauded, as also is Maude Mortimer, who sings with effect. Most talented and amusing is the gymnastic act presented by the Barowsky Trio. Will English, coon impersonator; Frank Bernard, Dutch comedian; Nellie Wallace, comedienne; and J. H. Liddy are excellent turns.

BLACKPOOL.

OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr Dudley Clinton and company present *Dandy Dick* here this week. Mr W. H. Denny plays his original part of Noah Topping with his well-known ability, and Mr Clinton contributes a clever study of Blore. The Dean of St. Marvell's is played in characteristic fashion by Mr Frank Lascelles, and Mr Henry Doughty carefully portrays Sir Tristram Mardon. Mr Cyril Harrison as Major Tarver and Mr A. Coneybeare Gough as Mr Darbey also make the most of their respective parts. Miss Edith Leyland does full justice to Georgiana Tidman, and Hannah Topping is capitally played by Mrs J. W. Braithwaite.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr T. Sergenson.—*A Snug Little Kingdom*, played by Mr Stuart Lomath and company, under the direction of Mr George H. Barham, is the attraction here. The character of Ben Kershaw, the Yorkshireman, is well treated at the hands of Mr Lomath. Miss Maud Marriott gives the utmost satisfaction in the dual-rôle of Margaret Kershaw (in the prologue) and Dolly (in the play); and Miss Hetty Lane scores a success as Amelia, her singing and dancing being much enjoyed.

WINTER GARDENS PAVILION.—General Manager, Mr J. R. Huddlestone.—Horace Goldin, described as the world's greatest illusionist, assisted by Miss Fransiola and company, is proving an enormous attraction here this week. Miss Alice Ainsworth, Blackpool's pet soprano, is still retained, as also are Carms, the Viennese dancer; Fred Corway, musical clown; Lucy Verdier, cornet soloist; Clown Zertho, and the Canary Troupe of pantomimists.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Signor Pepi and Co.; Manager, Mr T. P. Duignan.—Tom Costello has met with a particularly warm reception here this week, and is rapturously encored at every performance. The Carltons are clever statuary posers, and Mdlle. Thelma contributes a turn as a clay modeller. Henry A. Moore does well as a mimic, and Lara is an equilibrist of renown. Mill May, comedienne; the Five Whiteleys, wire walkers; Alf Brooks, comedian; and Miss Hartley, comedienne, also appear.

NORTH PROMENADE RECREATION GROUNDS.—Messrs Will Pepper and Whalley Shield's white coons are still giving great delight to huge crowds here twice daily (weather permitting).

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee, Mr Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Mr E. Hoggan-Armadale and répertoire company is here this week, the plays presented consisting of an original version of *David Garrick*, *The Sleigh Bells*, *The Vicar of Wakefield*, *The Lady of Lyons*, *The Robbery of the Lyons Mail*, and the Screen scene from *The School for Scandal*. The principal rôles are ably sustained by Mr E. Hoggan-Armadale. On Monday night the first-named play was produced. Mr E. Hoggan-Armadale invested the character of David Garrick with earnestness and passionate fervour. Miss Marie Florence united charm and grace in her impersonation of Laura Bedford; other characters in the cast being well played. On Tuesday night in *The Sleigh Bells* Mr E. Hoggan-Armadale achieved a great success as Mathias, exhibiting intensity and striking dramatic force.

BRIDLINGTON.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr Charles Palmer. — The promenade concerts continue to attract large audiences. Herr Winternitz, the talented conductor, provides some excellent programmes, and his violin solos are always encored, as are the well-executed cornet solos of Mr D. F. Flynn. The vocalist this week is Miss Keith Boyd, who possesses a good contralto voice.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr Henry Hague. — Dr. Churchill Sibley's orchestra proves a source of attraction at the Spa. Mr Frederic Hall is a clever harpist. Miss Ethel Thomas, a young lady with a sweet soprano voice, is the vocalist for the week.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs Beanland, Bath, and Denton.—There is a capital programme here. A laughable farce is performed by the company and one of the features of the week is a comic and sentimental singing contest.

BRIGHTON.

AQUARIUM.—Manager, Mr W. J. Hardy; Secretary, Mr S. H. Andrews.—Wishart, described as "the bottle king and handcuff mystifier," is a great attraction here this week, his greatest achievement being his "double box trick." Other attractions include the "Rosabel" Ladies' Orchestra and Mr Fred Miller, actor-vocalist. Promenade concerts are given by the Aquarium orchestra, under the direction of Mr J. W. Slatter.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General Manager, Mr Ernest Lepard.—The following are here this week:—Gracie Grahame, described as "the heroine of the lawsuit," who had an enthusiastic reception; the Peerless De Dio, in "Terpsichore's Dream;" the Woodbee Wonders, amusing acrobats; the Hoopers, comic jugglers; Grell and Grey, in "Bertie's First Lesson in Tennis;" Payne's Little Vagabonds, in *The Bluecoat Boys*; Juliette Clary, a French comedienne; Flo Elvin, serio; Tom Yorke, character and coster comedian; Mdlle. Florence, mimic; Professor Thornbury, quick sketch artiste and ventriloquist; and the Alhambra pictures.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrastord.—Jacques Inaudi, lightning calculator; Lily Lonsdale, soprano vocalist; Ernie Myers, patter comedian; Harry Taft, whistling comedian; Downes and Langford, comedians and dancers; the Manello and Maruitz Troupe of acrobats; Rex Fox in his unique wire act; the Dunedin Troupe of cyclists; Mons. Segomer, in his unique entertainment *Half an Hour in a Continental Resort*; and animated pictures.

NEW PALACE PIER.—General Manager, Mr C. Thompson Ford; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—Mr Henry Hare's company is here this week with *The Girl from Chicago*. Miss Madelin Du Val makes a vivacious and pleasing Flora Bloomer; Mr Buckstone Clair is an excellent Judge Ananias Hussel; Mr Clarence Ibbotson is very amusing as Obadiah Cackles; Mr Henry Hare achieves great success as General Boomer; Mr Douglas Vigors is very entertaining as the dude, Percy Montgomery; and Miss Nelly Vicott's Lucretia Flatfoot merits praise. The Daffodils, speciality dancers, add materially to the enjoyment of the performance.

WEST PIER PAVILION.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr A. D. Norman.—Mr. C. W. Somerset's company is here this week with *A Stranger in a Strange Land*. Mr Arthur Holmes Gore gives an admirable impersonation of Jack Thorndyke; Miss Violet Ley makes a winsome and charming American girl, Alice Wellington; Miss Alice Raynor as Jack's aunt, the Hon. Mrs Barton Halcombe, is highly successful; Mr Townsend Whitley presents a good character study as Dr. John Boller; Mr Frank Wood acts the part of Charles Dudley with marked ability; Mr Arthur Law Raynor is effective as Arthur Lowe; Mr Ernest Percy is an amusing Watson; and other characters are satisfactorily sustained by Miss Geraldine Somerset, Miss Edith Heron-Brown, Mr Edwin Wild, Mr W. Rotherham, Mr Saunders Barker, and Mr Thomas Lane.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Macready Chute.—Miss Lilian Dundas's company is here for the week with the ever-popular *East Lynne*, a new version by Herbert Shelley. The play is elaborately staged, and it is well performed all round. Miss Lilian Dundas presents a fine emotional exposition of Lady Isabel; Mr Henry Dundas plays effectively as Archibald Carlyle; Mr Percy Rhodes is exceptionally good as Levison; Barbara Hare, Miss Corny Carlyle, Joyce, Justice Hare, Dill, Mountsevern, and Richard Hare are all very carefully sustained by Miss Ethel Caryllon, Miss Esther Carthew, Miss E. B. Griffiths, Mr H. J. Barrett, Mr Sidney Young, Mr G. H. Harker, and Mr Frank Eagerfield. The two children, Willie and Isabel, are prettily played by Miss Marion Ryder and Miss Cissie Latham; and in the prologue the part of Affy Halijohn is rendered with much expression and effect by Miss Rose Helene. Monday was a souvenir night, the ladies visiting the theatre being presented with a cloth-bound copy of Mrs Henry Wood's novel "East Lynne," and a photo of Miss Lilian Dundas.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Ernest Carpenter.—Mr W. H. Chattell's company is here with *A King Amongst Men*, a romantic drama which is excellently staged. Mr Charles Burden gives a fine performance of Richard Cœur de Lion Truewath; Mr Wilfred H. Benson plays consistently and well as Oswald Bozil Unworthy; Miss Mabel Coleman is pleasing in the dual rôle of Agnes Ames and Gertrude Ames; the parts of Celda Corinne and Bertha Denham are satisfactorily played by Miss Marie Rainsford and Miss Edna French; and the comic characters of Adolphus, Cockney Joe, and the Oriental Flower are capitally taken by Mr Frank Eden, Mr Tom Taylor, and Miss Marie Robertson, and the two latter successfully introduce a speciality of song and dance.

PALACE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Brothers; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr Welchman.—Dr Walford Bodie is here on a return visit. On Monday evening he dealt with three cases of paralysis in a successful manner, the subjects on this occasion being children who had been pronounced by the faculty incurable, and he also introduced some of his former Bristol patients, who duly testified to the benefit they had experienced from the treatment last year, and their continued improvement. Many interesting experiments were done by Dr. Bodie, and he was much applauded at the conclusion of his demonstrations. There is also a strong variety company, including La Petite Bella, comedienne; Hyam Long, musical comedian; Miss Helen Henri, ballad vocalist; Norman Mills, actor-vocalist; Saxo, in his musical act; little Dolly Robson, character vocalist; Miss Lily Grey, serio and dancer; and H. Bell, Lilly Pearl and company in their comedy sketch, *A Bit of String*.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr Thomas Barrasford, jun.—The Six Brothers Luck head the programme with their amusing pantomime sketch *The Hotel Grande*. Miss Frederica's performing toy terriers are excellently trained, as also is the "cake-walk" pony Dot. Miss Elsie Rubino is an expert wire dancer; the White Mahatmas present a good exposition of mystery, thought-reading, &c.; Smith and Johnson, coloured duettists, obtain appreciation; Arthur Gill, double-voiced vocalist, is successful; Miss Hetty King, burlesque actress and mimic, does a pleasing turn; A. G. Spry, comedian, has some good songs; Miss Amy Russell is a pleasing vocalist; Morny Cash, comedian, obtains applause; and the Lizette troupe of lady athletes perform difficult acrobatic feats with ease and expertness. A new series of animated pictures concludes the entertainment.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Richardson.—The late Mr Frank Harvey's successful play *The Cotton Spinner* is being performed here this week by Miss Mary Austin's capable company, under the direction of Mr E. Vivian Edmonds. Miss Austin plays the part of Mary Prescott, the spinner's daughter, gracefully and displays restrained power as an emotional actress. Mr J. S. Haydon is excellent in the title-rôle; Mr Edmonds is earnest as Arthur Northbury; there is much humour in the Major Stratton of Mr Aylmer J. Williams and the Lady Charlotte Needie of Miss Florence M. Thorne; and able support is rendered by Mr E. A. Douglas as Lord Northbury, Mr J. B. Shinton as Foster Cunningham, and by Miss Violet Clayton as Constance Harrington. Mr Vivian Edmonds appears to great advantage as Mark Linden in his smart little curtain raiser *The Wedding Morn*, and he is well supported by Mr Shinton as Cecil.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Francis Laidler.—Mr Wm. Bourne's *When Darkness Falls* is proving an attraction here. A capable company is engaged in the representation of the piece, which is well staged. Mr Frank Liston displays much judgment in his handling of the part of the Rev. Arthur Graham; Miss Maud Buchanan is eminently successful in the trying rôle of Ellen Montrevor; and Mr Guy Hastings's Captain Montrevor is a very able effort. In the part of the wife of the reckless Woodruffe Miss Amy Vennimore achieves distinction; and a rich vein of humour is well sustained throughout the piece by Mr Will Clement as Mike Kavanagh and Miss Clarrie Ash as Jenny.

EMPIRE. — Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr P. A. Lennon.—There is no more welcome figure here at any time than the clever actor and entertainer Mr Bransby Williams, who is this week delighting the audiences in a military episode of "'87," viz., *The Veteran's Birthday*, in which he is ably assisted by Mr Fred Morland. Viviana gives a clever exhibition of dancing, and Mr and Mrs Findon in a well mounted sketch, *A Desperate Remedy*, are responsible for much laughter. Frank Seeley, comedian, submits a good turn, and Happy Fanny Fields, the American-Dutch comedienne, is, as usual, quaint in the extreme and full of animation. The clever trio the Sisters Trentanovi submit a graceful gymnastic entertainment, Alice Lloyd quite wins her audience as a bright and pleasing comedienne, and Max Renard introduces novelties in the way of cleverly trained dogs. The Wilhelmina Quartet give a good exposition of Dutch singing and dancing, and the irresistible "patter" and jokes of the M'Naughtons cause hearty laughter.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr F. Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr E. Harrison. — Those clever pantomimists, Donaldson Bros. and Ardell, in their zoological comedy, evoke much hearty laughter; Will Musgrave submits a capital comedy turn; and there is a fund of humour in the sketch, *The Lady and the Lunatic*, given by Muir and Bartlett. The male impersonations by Nellie Lovell are clever; pictorial songs, presented by Belle Braham, find favour; George Neno is successful in character comedy; the operatic and speciality duets presented by Bellrose and Develin are well rendered and receive marked favour; and Herbert Shelley, the actor-vocalist, is paying a welcome return visit with her usual success.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr James M. Hardie; Manager and Secretary, Mr James M. Hardy, jun.—Mr John Tully is paying a return visit with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. As Marks, the lawyer, Mr Tully keeps the audience in roars. Miss Kitty Wood makes an excellent Topsy and is an expert dancer. Uncle Tom is well portrayed by Mr Kora Deanrajah. Mr W. H. Cecil Pierpoint makes Phineas Fletcher a droll personage. Mr Fred G. Kay as Simon Legree is successful in raising the ire of the gods to a high pitch. Miss Cissie Sephton ably undertakes the dual-rôle of Eliza Harris and Cassy. Little Eva is pleasingly acted by Little Marie. The large audience appeared to thoroughly enjoy on Monday the grand Plantation Festival, in which appear Miss Kitty Wood, Miss Lillian Francis, quadroon vocalist; Charles Henry Mack, banjo exponent; Sam Taylor, the laughing darkie; and Sergt. H. Danby, rifle and tambourine expert. The staging is excellent.

BURY (LANCS.).

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—The variety company here this week includes the Barra Troupe of musical entertainers; the Villon Troupe of acrobatic and comedy cyclists; the Llewelyns, vocalists; the Three Zaracs, triple bar artistes; Maude and Marie Wilton, vocalists; Marcus Boyle, comedian; and Codge, the whistler. Mr Culling's eighth annual benefit drew a crowded house. Chief among the attractions were *Hiawatha*, by Miss F. Rothwell and eight members of the amateur operatic society, and *The Widow Woos*, by Mr Charles Kenyon and company.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—For a good many seasons Mr Ben Greet and his company have provided the pastoral plays which are a feature of the May week festivities, and on Tuesday afternoon in the lovely grounds of Downing College, before an excellent audience, Mr W. S. Gilbert's *The Palace of Truth* was given. The play was much enjoyed, and as Prince Philamir Mr Mathison Lang was all that could be desired, the remainder of the characters being also most faithfully represented. In the evening *The Merry Wives of Windsor* was also charmingly played.

CHESTERFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr Holbery Hardy.—Miss Winifrid Maude's company is appearing here with *Sins of a City*. Mr Oswald Gray and Miss Winifrid Maude as the hero and heroine display ability; Mr Royce Carleton does well as Donald M'Ivor; Mr J. W. Baxter renders excellent service in the dual rôles of Joe and Jasper Woodleigh; Miss Marie Lyons act well the part of Lesbia; Mr Aardale gives a vigorous portrayal of Ralph Blackwater, and the remaining parts are in capable hands.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr John Horgan.—Mr Penley's company opened here on Monday in the popular farcical comedy *Charley's Aunt*. Mr Walter Pemberton was excellent as Stephen Spettigue; Mr Richard Fielding ably filled the part of Colonel Sir Francis Chesney, Bart.; and Mr Aubrey Mallalieu as Jack Chesney acted capitally. The parts of Charley Wykeham and Brassett were taken by Mr Mark Wylton and Mr Fred Epitaux respectively. Miss Mary Morison as Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez proved herself a capable actress; as Kitty Verdun Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald pleased very much; and the parts of Amy Spettigue and Ela Delahay were well filled by Miss Marie Grogan and Miss Mary Mallalieu. The play was preceded by the curtain-raiser entitled *A Barmecide Feast*.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—A capital attraction is provided this week at the Coventry Opera House in *The World's Desire*, by Barry Williams, and produced by Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr Edward Whitty's company. Miss Van Praagh, who is a favourite at Coventry, is heartily appreciated as Nathaniel Mutley's daughter; Mr J. Edward Whitty takes the dual part of the twin Brothers Selkirk in an admirable manner; Mr Hartwell J. Kirby represents the villain cleverly; and Mr Harry Belford does ample justice to the part of Nathaniel Mutley.

CHELTENHAM.

OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr H. Oswald Redford.—Mr Frank Nelson's company is filling the house with laughter this week, in *Trooper Hunt's Widow*. Mr Wilfred C. Shine sustains the chief part, and assures the success of the comedy. Miss Zoe Gilfillan gives a quaint and humorous impersonation of Mrs Watson. Mr Cecil Flower is responsible for a capital impersonation of the amorous grocer, Nathaniel Sapp, and Mr Joseph Hudson as Gordon Ryder, the sporting suitor, is good. Mr Howard Cridland acts naturally as the young solicitor, Mr Alec Flood as the trooper's designing cousin, and Mr Geo. M'Closkie as the solicitor's clerk are capable. Miss Amy Edmonds as the vicar's daughter is accomplished, and Miss Susie Oak as the young housekeeper is effective.

MONTPELLIER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr F. A. Hastings.—This week the Yokels provide their *Fun in a Farmhouse*, and keep the audiences highly amused.

CARDIFF.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Robert Redford.—Mr H. Armitage is presenting *East Lynne* at the Royal this week. The version given is that which has lately been rewritten and revised by Mr Wilson Barret. The Lady Isabel of Miss Hadiée Wright and the Archibald Carlyle of Mr Edmund F. Kennedy are two representations which could scarcely improved upon. Mr Cecil Elgar as Francis Levison and Mr A. G. Melford as Justice Hare deserve special mention for their excellent portrayals.

KING'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; General Manager, Mr Robert Sawin.—*Saved from the Sea*, capitally played by Mr Leslie Vyner's company, forms the attraction at the already popular King's. A fine piece of acting is given by Mr Leonard Robson, who makes a really manly hero. As Nancy Ellington Miss F. Russell-Spiers submits a charming and sympathetic delineation. Mr Harry Vernon and Miss Dora Condor introduce the comedy element, the lively impersonations of Billy Snooks and Polly Blake given by these clever artistes being much appreciated.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea. — The celebrated wrestler Georges Hackenschmidt has made his first appearance in the Principality this week. On Monday an enormous crowd beseiged the Empire, when the management had specially engaged Bert Wood, the champion wrestler of the British Navy, to compete with the hero of Olympia. After an exciting tussle of eight minutes Hackenschmidt overcame his opponent amid the enthusiastic applause of the audience. The programme also includes Minnie Palmer, in an amusing sketch, *A Husband's Diary*, in which she is assisted by Mr Sidney Harcourt; another laughable playlet, entitled *My Wife's Baby*, is given by the Brown and Kelly Combination; Jerry Hart and Beatrice Leo create a great success in their latest song, "Follow the crowd on Sunday;" uproarious laughter is caused by Belle Davis' precocious pick-chicks; and flattering applause is accorded the turns given by Ada Cerito, comedienne; the Leonards, speciality artists; E. W. Selman, humorous comedian; the Bros. Phillipi, acrobatic equilibrists; and the Sisters Pine, duettists and dancers.

CROYDON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr H. D. Lyle.—*Because I Love You* is proving a sound attraction here. Mr Frank Stephens gives a vivid and graphic rendering of Nemo, the "vulture;" Mr R. A. Greene is adequate in the rôle of Captain Stirling, V.C.; Mr Howard Tracy renders useful aid as Professor Predate; Miss Annie Megson acts well as Cleopatra Cotton; Miss Ellen Teesdale makes a bright Sister Mary; Miss Adelaine Montague is a suitable Mr Puplett; Miss F. Trevor is smart as Lady Ursula Milfoil; Miss Madge North acts with tact as Norina Chandos; and the remaining characters are in careful hands. Mr John Reillie's orchestra contributes some interesting selections during the intervals, and Mr H. D. Lyle is an obliging and energetic manager.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—The amusements here are up to the usual high standard. Little Clarisse Heney recites creditably; Lieutenant Albini repeats a former triumph with the sensational act "A Sailor and His Lass;" the Maples are duettists and dancers of ability; Paul Jones is an accomplished vocalist; Robins and Collier create fun in sketch, *The Photographer and the Lady*; Sadie Simpson, comedienne, is neat; the Eltons are quaint in juggling act; Blanche Albini is an expert dancer; Learto wins applause with his performing dog; Florrie Forde is a fascinating burlesque artiste; Tom Fancourt is a comedian of sterling ability; and Edith Carr's sketch company is received with approval, in *The Gentleman from the Gasworks*.

DERBY.

NEW GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr T. Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr C. Denley.—Messrs Jerold Heather and Geo. A. de Gray's company is here this week with the drama, *A Life at Stake*. In the part of Lieut. Desmond Mr George A. de Gray acquits himself successfully, and Captain Blanchard is well impersonated by Mr J. L. Edmonde. Mr Jerold Heather does well as Jack Hilliard, and Obadiah Sleek has a praiseworthy exponent in Mr Francis Hope. Mr Harry Turner is a capital Dan Cherry, and Mr Robert Barton creditably sustains the part of Bill Jolly. Miss Etty Turner gives an excellent performance as Madge Seaton, and Lucy Seaton is in the capable hands of Miss Olly Smith. Miss Evelyn Marrable is a charming Dorothy Marsden, and Miss Cissy Cleveland an amusing Rosie Appleby.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Edwardes.—The principal attraction here this week is Daisy James, a very pleasing comedienne, her songs being rendered in a manner which gains her several hearty recalls. The Daunton-Shaw Troupe of trick cyclists are paying a welcome return visit, and are as cordially received as ever. Victor Newman is a clever impersonator, and his characters from Dickens are all that can be desired. Alexandra Royal, a pleasing burlesque actress, soon finds favour with her audience; Max Sterling is a clever illusionist; Chris is a smart ventriloquist; the Bodina Trio of vocalists and musicians are very entertaining; and Herbert Maden, vocal comedian, is well worthy of mention.

DEVONPORT.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident Manager, Mr Charles Townsend.—For presentation during the second week of his welcome stock season here Mr Carlton has selected the perennial favourite *It's Never Too Late to Mend*. The popular drama is produced by Mr Samuel Livesey, whose highly commendable performance of Tom Robinson is remarkable for its breadth of expression, virile force, and delicate humour. As George Fielding Mr Leonard Aardale works in a conscientious, careful, and thoroughly effective manner; and Mr Herbert Cecil's gentlemanly methods and cool imperturbability are salient features of his clever reading of Meadows. The crafty but humorous Crawley has a talented and hardworking exponent in Mr Arthur Byron, and Mr Leon Ainscliffe is responsible for a most amusing and highly meritorious rendering of the difficult rôle of Jackey. Mr H. Dobell Lyle quickly establishes his popularity with the audience by his earnest, convincing, and generally acceptable effort as the Rev. Eden; whilst Mr Herbert Landeck is profoundly impressive as the steadfast Jew. Messrs Fred Tenaur and Geo. S. King are uniformly excellent in their respective rôles. Miss Judith Kyrle acts with unaffected elegance and makes the most of her few opportunities as Susan; and Miss Daisy Norman plays the boy Josephs with a true note of pathos and a commendable absence of maudlin sentiment.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Resident-Manager, Mr J. Herbert Asquith.—Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey are here presenting the powerful Oriental drama *The Traitor Prince*. In the title-rôle Mr E. Carter Livesey has a part entirely to his liking, and scores throughout. His accomplice in crime is one Vashti, a rôle powerfully portrayed by Miss B. M. Anderson. Comedy is naturally and smartly represented, and Messrs G. V. Campbell, G. M. Montanini, and Miss E. Lewes as Billy Bright, Bobby Dalrymple, and Pansy Blossom respectively work hard to keep the ball of fun rolling. Mr Joseph Carter as Lieut. Frank Derrick is a typical sailor hero, and his efforts are ably supported by Miss Lilian Rosebery as Lola Vane. Mr Tom Roydon has a weird part in Cara, but one which he tackles with success.

HIPPODROME AND VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr G. Weldon.—The Elliott-Savonas have been engaged by the management for one week longer. Messrs Reed and Lerne are a couple of quaint comedians; while the engagement of Albert Lovell, a local jumper of note, has lent some attraction. George Adams, an excellent baritone, sings some good songs; T. C. Callaghan has good style, and Miss Florrie St. Clair is quite a smart comedienne.

DONCASTER.

NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Councillor J. W. Chapman.—The management are to be congratulated upon a successful combination of variety artists engaged here. The Almos, who head the programme, give a clever exhibition as gymnasts; Nellie Vann possesses a cultured and extremely mellow soprano voice, superadded to which she is *au fait* as a danseuse; the Brothers Hannaway are delightful as cross-talkers and clog-dancers; the Schallers are extremely humorous in their comedy act entitled *Billy's Blunders*; Baby Lloyd is unquestionably a young lady of great promise; Rena and Rex are amusing in their musical duologue *A Double Birthday*; Steve Cooke, a character comedian, is an agreeable turn; Alf Bishop's abilities as a comedian and dancer are apparent; and Quinton Gibson, an old Doncaster favourite, is as verdant as ever as a lady impersonator.

DOUGLAS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Limited; Manager, Mr Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Brittain.—The success of the season of farcical comedy, inaugurated three weeks ago by Messrs Herbert Ralland and Walter Sealby, continues to increase. This week, in accordance with a generally expressed wish, Mrs Musgrave's charming play, *Our Flat*, has been revived for three nights at the Gaiety Theatre. The piece was again artistically interpreted. Miss Chrisie Ralland as the young wife, Margery Sylvester, looked charming, and invested the rôle with pathos as well as piquancy. The Bells of Miss Ada Marius had the quality of humour; Miss Mabel Sealby as Lucy played with graceful pleasantness, and Miss Mona Dowson as Clara Pryout did all that the author desired intelligently. Mr C. B. Vaughan gave an interesting as well as entertaining portrait of the young author; Mr Walter Sealby as Nathaniel Glover presented a finished picture of a certain kind of theatrical manager invented by Charles Dickens; Mr Fred Fowler was well suited as Clarence Vane; and Mr Herbert Ralland was amusing as Pinchard. Mr Geo. P. Ascott, an unctuous comedian, extracted all the laughs from the character of M'Cullum. Other characters were well played by Miss Julie St. George, Mr Joseph Pindar, and Mr J. R. Turnbull. The scenery, stage-management, and appointments were effective, and audiences have been large and appreciative. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday were set down for the first production of a new and original play, *Off the Rank*. Each evening the *pièce de résistance* has been preceded by the bright curtain-raiser *In Strict Confidence*, in which Mr Fred Fowler, Mr J. R. Turnbull, and Miss Mabel Sealby do sincere and excellent work for the author, Mr Paul Hookham.

NEW EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Elderton and Smith; General Manager, Mr A. E. Smith.—The management here presents two complete performances nightly of a new and original pantomime entitled *The Babes in the Wood*. The audiences have been large, and the representations received with laughter and applause. Mr A. E. Smith is responsible for the book of words, which possesses point and delicacy, and tells an old-fashioned story with adroitness. He has also invented the mechanical scenes. The original music has been composed by Madam Helen Godfrey, who also conducts. The company engaged play with painstaking talent. There is plenty of homely, old-fashioned fun, clever acting, graceful dancing, and tuneful singing for the children, young and old, but no vestige of foolish vulgarity. Miss Lily White is well-suited as Robin Hood; Miss Elsie Douglas is a pleasing Maid Marion; Miss Fannie Douglas is well placed as Will Scarlet; and the Babes are prettily played by Miss Adele Colleen and Miss Mona Palfrey. The Bold Bad Baron is endowed with some fresh ideas by Mr J. H. Maxwell, who also introduces his big-boot dancing and hat spinning. Tired Tim and Weary Willie have excellent interpreters in Mr Bob Padley and Mr John Matthews. The Jovial Friar of Mr Charles Cerfew is excellent, and Mr Charles Gladwell is at his best as the Dame. Miss Maud Bettison makes a dainty Fairy Queen. The principal dancers are the Silverdale Trio and Miss Elsie Douglas.

DERBY CASTLE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Limited; Manager, Mr Charles Fox; Assistant-Manager, Mr Alfred Kelly.—This is ever a place of amusement which appeals to that many-headed personality, the British public. It has the attraction of variety. There is dancing on an excellent floor to an orchestra which understands all the possibilities of up-to-date music, written for that purpose. Smoking is allowed, side-shows are numerous, and the variety entertainment is always well chosen. The chief talent showing this week includes the Strolling Players, Professor Wyman, and the Biograph. The Strolling Players present a clever pot-pourri, which is much appreciated. Professor Wyman is smart and up to date, and the animated pictures are interesting.

BUXTON'S Pierrots and Village continue to attract large audiences. The popularity of Mr Charles Dare's burnt cork artists never wanes, and Burton's Pierrot combination adds to the gaiety of the Douglas visitors.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Lessees, Michael Gunn, Limited; General Manager, Mr Charles Hyland.—Mrs Bandmann-Palmer and company commenced a six nights' engagement here on Monday, when *Mary Queen of Scots* was performed. Mrs Bandmann-Palmer's conception of the rôle of the hapless Queen was dignified and pathetic. The part of the Earl of Leicester had an able exponent in Mr F. Skein, and as Queen Elizabeth Miss May Grimshaw was most effective. Mr Montague Lane gave an admirable portrayal of Sir Edward Mortimer, Mr Edward Kane well sustained the part of the Earl of Shrewsbury, Lord Burleigh was efficiently played by Mr H. F. Maltby, and Miss Katherine Herbert made an excellent Gertrude. Mr F. Vernon was successful as the Earl of Kent, and as Burgoyne Mr C. Crux was satisfactory. *East Lynne*, *Hamlet*, *Leah*, and *Jane Shore* are also in the répertoire of plays produced.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. Armstrong.—*Fun on the Bristol* is being played here this week by Mr Wellesley Smith's special company, in which we have an old Dublin favourite, Mr Russell Hallett, who was warmly greeted on making his appearance as the Widow O'Brien. Mr Wellesley Smith gives a cap

was very good; and Mr J. C. Graves gave an amusing reading of Jerry Thompson. Miss Clara Moore acted capitally in the rôle of Dora M'Allister; and Mr J. M'William, Mr George Goodwin, and Mr James Wilson fulfilled their respective rôles in capital style. The principal attraction in the programme was the appearance of the well-known comedian Mr Eugene Stratton in the saloon scene, in which he gave a selection of his popular songs and dances.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitbread; General Manager, Mr Kennedy Miller.—A great treat to the habitués of this theatre was provided by the advent on Monday of the Elster-Grime opera company in *Maritana*. Mr F. Hargrave as Don Cæsar acted in a realistic manner, and the part of Don Jose was effectively rendered by Mr Michael Kemble. As the King Mr G. Partridge was most efficient, and Mr Charles Cooke was everything to be desired as the Alcade. Mr Morris Simmons acquitted himself well as the Marquis; the arduous part of Maritana was well played by Miss Marie Elster; and as Lazarillo Miss Teresa Gilbert sang the numbers allotted to her in charming style. *Il Trovatore, Carmen, The Lily of Killarney, The Daughter of the Regiment,* and *The Bohemian Girl* are also in the répertoire.

EMPIRE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. S. Figgis. — The popular comedienne Marie Kendall is the chief attraction here this week, and is meeting with a cordial reception. The Leggetts, sketch artistes, are highly amusing; Jessie Albini, comedienne, has many admirers; Ray Wallace is a clever mimic; and Lennard and White are successful as coon entertainers. The Sisters Dacre are excellent duettists and dancers, Steve M'Carthy is an entertaining comedian, Frank Sylvo a smart comedy juggler, and the Cecils are capable duettists and dancers. The Empire Pictures are still showing.

TIVOLI.—General Manager, Mr Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr H. A. Murphy.—Topping the bill here we have the mysterious Lilith, whose wonderful performance is well received. The Three Donals, gladiators, are an extremely good turn; W. J. Churchill is an acceptable comedian; Rita and Roma are excellent entertainers; and Fred Harcourt, the modern magician, meets with success. Len Lever is a capital coon vocalist; Lily Foy a pleasing comedienne; the illustrated songs of Lilian Warren are well rendered; and the Saletos, Continental gymnasts, and Ellie and Edgar, wire performers, complete a good programme.

DOVER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owing to the great success of *The Shaughraun*, Mr F. C. Dow is presenting for this week only *The Colleen Bawn*. Miss Mildred Eversleigh, an emotional actress of high ability, completely holds the attention of the audience with her consummately clever and pathetic acting as Eily O'Connor. The rôle of Ann Chute is rendered by Miss Jeannie Burgoyne with much winsomeness and buoyancy. Miss Belle Power plays with considerable ability as Mrs Cregan, and Sheelah is effectively portrayed by Miss May M'Kenzie. Mr Alfred Lester's Myles-na-Coppaleen is full of humour and pathos. Mr Claude Aymond is excellent as Hardress Cregan; Kyrle Daly is acted with sincerity by Mr Frederick Ross; Mr Ernest K. Nelson gives a powerful impersonation of Danny Mann; Mr George R. Butt's portrayal of Father Tom is worthy of the highest praise; and Mr Jack M'Kenzie is to be congratulated upon his clever performance as Mr Corrigan. Mr Herbert Hollister is good as Bertie O'Moore, the cast being completed by Mr L. Wright as Hyland Creagh and Mr Murphy as a servant. On Friday night Mr F. C. Dew, the popular manager, took his first benefit, which in future will become an annual affair. In addition to *The Colleen Bawn* an excellent programme was arranged.

DUDLEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr J. W. Tilley.—Mr Roy Jackson and a talented company, including Miss Kittie Douglas, are here this week with a triple programme, *Quasimodo, Trilby,* and *The Hand of Iron*. Opening on Monday with the first-mentioned piece, Mr Jackson was realistic and clever in the title-rôle, and Miss Douglas was artistic and winning as Esmeralda. Mr Percy Stevenson played powerfully the part of Claude Frollo. This house now closes until August.

EMPIRE. — Manager, Mr Tom Prichard. — Mr Prichard still continues to provide excellent fare for his patrons here. There are some exceptionally good turns in this week's bill, amongst which are the following:—The Five Bogannys, the lunatic bakers; Vivians, in musical travesty, *Life's Reverie;* Zaid, a Spanish Moor, in his Oriental speciality; Shawlene, the clever tramp whistler; Gaertner and Weston, comedy team; and G. W. Foster, a welcome and popular comedian. Other good turns are given by the Warlocks, in their vaudeville; Johnny P. Dane, cake walker; and, last, but not least, Rose Tilley, a favourite comedienne and dancer.

EDINBURGH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General Manager, Mr G. T. Minshull.—*Our Boys* has been played here this week with success by a capital company under the direction of the popular Mr Russell Rosse, to whom Edinburgh playgoers are indebted for many pleasurable evenings. There was a fair house on Monday, and Mr Thomas Thorne repeated his inimitably clever impersonation of Perkyn Middlewick, to the delight of everyone present. Mr Norman Clark was an excellent Sir Geoffrey Champneys; Mr Philip Hewland an admirable Charles Middlewick; while Mr George Mudie, jun., gave complete satisfaction with a characteristic rendering of Talbot Champneys. Mr Reginald A. Hunt also rendered useful assistance as Kempster. Miss Marie Dennett was a bright and lively Mary Melrose, the poor cousin, and Miss Stewart Innes displayed refinement and ability as Violet Melrose, the heiress. Miss Bessie Harrison gave a genial embodiment of the good-hearted Clarissa Champneys, and Miss Edith Hesketh was delightfully natural as Belinda. A pretty comedietta by Chas. Hannan, *The Setting of the Sun*, preceded.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss.—Miss Marie Loftus's reappearance here on Monday was witnessed by a crowded house, and the reception she had was worthy her popularity. Miss Loftus scored with every song, and concluded her wonderful pantomime review, which is a marvel of mimetic effect, with some divertingly novel business that sent her audience frantic with delight. The feats of Newhouse and Ward, trick cyclists, were extraordinarily clever, and the Northern Troupe of dancers renewed their acquaintance with their admirers here, scoring their usual success. A good musical turn was given by the Norman Leonard Trio, whose harp and violin solos were warmly applauded, and the American Comedy Four, a talented male quartet, sung with notable effect, and proved very entertaining. Miss Katie Butler, whose fresh and natural style made an immediate impression, was seen to advantage in a couple of character impersonations; and Miss Nellie Vanderbilt sang and danced charmingly for the enjoyment of early visitors. Mr Wilson Hallett's whistling powers were remarkable, and some imitations of children's voices were also very good. The little sketch introduced by Rose and Calvert was full of fun and variety; and Mdlle. Amelia De Lagreze revealed a soprano voice of phenomenal compass in some exquisitely rendered ballads that received many tributes of [illegible]. Mr Lawrence Barclay, eccentric comedian, completed the company.

[illegible]ION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—*Mother Goose* has been retained here for another week, and elicits laughter and applause nightly. The performance goes with commendable smoothness, all the characters are sustained with spirit, and singing and dancing are alike enjoyable.

EASTBOURNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—Miss Frances Wolviston's company is appearing here in *East Lynne*. The staging and the company are good. Miss Frances Wolviston, by her excellent work as Lady Isabel, proves herself an emotional actress of great ability. Miss Nora Wynne is a refined and pretty Barbara; Miss Kate O'Neil is a very effective and successful Cornelia; and Little Christabel is a very clever child actress, and she makes the part of Little Willie very appealing; while Joyce and Susanne are well played by Misses Nita Rae and Chrissie Belton. Mr Arthur Leigh gives a quiet, restrained portrayal of Archibald Carlyle, and his fine voice is heard to advantage. Mr Arthur Pringle gives a fine rendering of Francis Levison. He is polished and natural. Mr Groves Watson is a great favourite as Bullock, and gains many laughs; Mr William Dunlop is a manly Richard Hare; and good help is given by Mr John Phipps as Lawyer Dill, and by Mr George Herbert and Mr W. Matthews as Mountsevern and Justice Hare.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr A. Standen Triggs.—On Wednesday afternoon a flying matinée was given here by Mr Arthur Roberts, under the direction of Mr Samuel Lloyd. Mr Arthur Roberts in his own inimitable way sang old favourites and later songs, and in *Packing Up* he and Miss Ruby Celeste kept the house in roars of laughter. The clever work of Mr Charles Pond in his sketches from life was very successful. Miss Ruby Celeste also took a goodly share in providing the entertainment.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—Mr Edward Marris and his capital company are paying a return visit in *The Dandy Doctor*. A great deal of the work and the chief honours fall to Miss Florence Smithers, who as Jane has an original style and is exceptionally clever. Miss Lizzie Primmer is an attractive Ivy Pendred; Miss Maisie Ivie is a capital Miss Vandyke; and Miss Lily Price is a good Miss Loraine. Mr Edward Marris again proves a capital comedian, and works hard as Brown. Mr James Danvers is a highly amusing Colonel Pendred, and his musical speciality, in which he is ably assisted by Miss Otto, is an entertaining item. Mr Walter Nugent sings and acts well as Arthur Vandyke, Mr Fred Russel is an efficient Bertie, Mr Owen Dacroy is a realistic Drycoff, and Miss Nora Melton is a pretty Buttons.

ECCLES.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Hague; Acting-Manager, Mr P. Ryan-Smith.—Messrs Marston and Buckstone's company is appearing here in a musical comedy-drama entitled *The Silver Cross*. The piece is mostly of the variety order, and in this respect Mr Frederick A. Marston and Mr Syd Bazley excel and at the same time create a lot of fun in their respective rôles. The Sisters Mazzuchi are very successful in their duets; Miss Maud Western is popular in the part of Ida Adams; and the same may be said of Miss Marion Armitage.

FARNWORTH.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell.—We have a welcome visit this week from Miss Annie Bell's *Sapho* company. As Fanny Legrand Miss Annie Bell is fully equal to the demands made upon her. Mr John Davidson is responsible for a lifelike impersonation of Jean Gaussin; Mr George Antley gives a clever character sketch as Uncle Cesaire; Mr Guy Watson as Paul Dechelette and Mr Herbert Longford as Caoudal make the most of their respective characters; Mr Pringle Roberts is seen to advantage as Flamant, and little Lottie Ray gives a pleasing rendering of the juvenile character of Joseph. The dresses and scenery are excellent.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland.—Mr Sanderson Moffat and company, in *A Woman Adrift*, is the attraction here this week. Miss Phyllis Hamilton in the title-rôle gives a fine performance; Mr William Clayton is capital in the arduous part of Sir John Ingleby; Mr Charles Wilson as Jibbs proves exceptionally smart; the dual-part of Ferdinand and Don Leo is well embodied by Mr Sanderson Moffat; Miss Phyllis Graham plays in a natural manner as Rupert; Mr Robb Harvey and Mr Watson Hume are amusing as Roderick and Dennis; Miss Maude Merrick is a vivacious Molly; and Miss Violet Keand is effective as Stella.

VICTORIA PIER.—Lessees, Messrs Keith Prowse and Co., Limited; General Manager, Mr H. De Manche; Resident-Manager, Mr C. Leybourne.—Appearing with success here this week are Miss C. Stroud Wilson, soprano; Mr Arthur W. Jay, baritone; Mr J. M'Cullum, comedian; and the Red Viennese Band.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr H. M. Schulz.—Miss Nellie Tauer, soprano, is the vocalist here this week; Mr Vernon Irving is a capital humourist; and the Ladies' Blue Salon Band and the animated pictures also meet with approval.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr H. Hopkins.—A fascinating drama, entitled *A Bid for Fortune*, occupies the boards here this week. In the double rôle of Sir Milton Netherley and Desmond Netherley Mr George Child scores a distinct success; Mr Arthur Mervyn as Sir Philip Templemere also creates a favourable impression; the character of Kent Hickett is successfully portrayed by Mr Richard Fulton; and Mr Arthur Trail makes a first-rate Matthew Mullard. As Cobb Cuttle Mr Dick Thomas scores a distinct success; Miss Rosa Mervyn as Barbara acts sympathetically and well; and Miss Olive Fulton makes a charming Agnes Netherley. Miss Jenny Bostock is a first-rate Widow Nicholls.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Bolam and Bacon; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Smith.—Chief amongst an attractive list of turns produced at this variety theatre during the week is Rice, Rose, Davis, and the Half, who provide a most interesting turn. Others who go to make up the success of the bill are Flo Viller, male impersonator; Lanton and Lane, comedians; Millie Varcoe, slab dancer; Harry Lawson, eccentric comedian; Sisters Brenton, duettists; and Brothers Lavelle, comedy acrobats.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W. Nightingale.—Mr Lawrence Brough and company occupy the boards this week. On Monday and two following evenings, *The Cruise of the Saucy Sally* was played. Mr Brough acted capitally the part of the mendacious Herbert Jocelyn; Jack Buncome was capitally represented by Mr Percy Marshall; Mr Hewson Elliott was as good as Evan Evans; Mr Edmund Gurney was a breezy, emphatic Ulysses Jeffson; Percival Chudleigh was amusingly portrayed by Mr Harry Collier; Capt. Jocelyn was well played by Mr Dan F. Roe; Mr Harold M. M'Nay was successful as Perkins; Cecile was brightly enacted by Miss Dorothy Cacey; Miss Kate Milford was charming and effective as Rosie Jocelyn; Miss Amy Singleton was an alert, determined Mrs Lambert; and Jeannie and Hannah found capable exponents in Miss Mildred Hodson and Daisy Cooke. For the rest of the week *The Lady of Ostend* was played.

GUERNSEY.

LES TERRES HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr Edward Smith.—The additional attractions here this week include Frank Hope, trick cyclist; Almero, wire artiste; Linton, society conjuror; Brothers De Var, on the horizontal bar; M. Bertram, second sight artiste; Zampa, the clown; Elmo, trapeze gymnast; and Midshipman Heasy, aerial high mast performer. All the artistes are well received, and the show is altogether excellent.

GLASGOW.

ROYALTY THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager (pro tem.), Mr Percy Humphrys.—Mr Wilson Barrett's version of *East Lynne* forms the programme here. The company is under the direction of Mr H. Armitage and Mr Percy Burton. Archibald Carlyle has a fitting representative in Mr W. T. Grant, while Mr Percy Foster is sufficiently villainous as Francis Levison, and as Justice Hare Mr Paul Belmore is as irascible as the part requires. Lawyer Dill by Mr W. F. Clitherow is a clever and acceptable part in that gentleman's hands. Barbara Hare has a sympathetic exponent in Miss Hilda Stainer. Cornelia Carlyle has a good representative in Miss F. Olive, while Mr Arnold Palmer as the unfortunate Richard Hare is manly and independent. Mr Edward Rochelle's Constable Bullock is a voluble policeman. Miss Bessie Rignold is excellent as Lady Isabel. Miss Daisy Maull and Miss Flo Florence are clever exponents of the juvenile parts.

METROPOLE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry W. Day.—Mr A. Clifton Alderson's company is reviving here Wilkie Collins's powerful play *The New Magdalen*. As Mercy Merrick Miss F. Conyers Radcliffe gives an excellent rendering of a difficult part, and alike in the pathetic and in the strong scenes of the play carries the sympathies of the audience with her. As Julian Gray Mr A. Clifton Alderson is also well suited, and makes an impressive if unconventional clergyman. Miss Billie Doyle acts with the necessary restraint in the earlier scenes, and as Grace Rosebery is suitably vindictive in the trying situations later. Mr William Brandon gives due effect to the self-satisfied Horace Holmcroft. A clever study is the German surgeon of Mr F. W. Waller. Miss Dora Heritage as Lady Janet Roy is the typical society grand dame. Minor parts are all well played, and a pierrot entertainment is given after the play, in which Miss Moya Mannering and Messrs Nelson Dudley, A. Dudley, and H. F. Wright take part. *The Streets of London* was given at the end of the week.

WHITEVALE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Geo. Green.—*The Trippers* continues to meet with undiminished popularity. Mr Charles Majilton as Adolphus Noodle has a part for which he is admirably suited, and Mr Dickie Clare as Billy is exceedingly funny. Mr Sam Thomson as Pate N'Nab contributes largely to the success of the entertainment, as also does Mr Sam Kelly as Norah M'Nab, his song, "I'll knock a hole in M'Cann," bringing down the house. Miss Maddie Majilton is an engaging Prince Paragon, and Miss Madge Brownie is charming as Polly. Miss Vesta Brownie is highly successful as Pauline. Mr H. Ashmore is full of humour as Professor Peter Pimpleton. Miss Laura Lorraine, Miss Clara Lorraine, and Miss C. Foy all achieve distinction.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr H E. Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr W. H. Howard; Assistant-Manager, Mr Geo. Anthony. — Carl Hertz, the illusionist, shows some wonderful tricks and fairly mystifies the audience. As a comedy juggler W. C. Fields takes high rank; Edwin Barwick contributes a clever imitation of Sir Henry Irving; Fred Zola's eccentricities are amusing; the Maningos give an extremely neat balancing turn; Harry Ford introduces some new songs this week; Orpheus in his instrumental selections proves a popular item; and Ross and Grayson, smart comedy duo; Guy Ryder, the clever boy whistler; Sisters Lunelle, dancers; Dan Thomas, comedian; and the Bioscope, with new pictures, complete a first-rate programme.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and T. Barrasford.—George Fuller Golden is paying a return visit this week, and his reception is again of the heartiest description. The smart acrobatic performance of the Patty Frank Troupe is also capitally received. Tom Foy and company's sketch *The Yorkshire Lad in London* proves very amusing, and in the same line Mrs Richard Edgar and Mr Lionel Glenister score well with *The Lady and the Parson*. Madame Collard with her "lion and tiger" dogs makes a favourable first appearance here, while the popular burlesque jugglers, Walton and Lester, are retained from last week. James Dubois gives his life-like monkey impersonation; the acrobatic comedy of Talberto and Douglas is good; and a trick cycle act by the Arleys is likewise clever.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs Rich Waldon and Thos. Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr David Douglas. — This week's attractions include the daring feat of "looping the loop" by Miss Madeline, who also accomplishes some clever trick bicycle riding; Mdlle Florizell is well named "the flexible aerial beauty," and her graceful movements and contortions are greatly admired; Meier and Mora evoke much applause in their American speciality act, and their ball-punching is very smart; the singing and whirlwind dancing of Mr E B. Seener's Charkassen Troupe are very good; and Nellie Howard and Willie Collinson are the cause of much laughter with their absurdity, *The Porter and the Parcel*. In Wallno's musical comedy act the music is good and the dresses of the various members of the combination are very quaint; the Souslоffs are excellent in their tourbillon dances; and Hector and Paulus, comedy equilibrists; Chas. Bignell, comedian; and the series of animated pictures make up a very strong programme.

GLOUCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr W. H. Weller.—Mr J. R. Poole this week presents a capital show of animated pictures. In addition there is a clever company of variety artistes. Mr J. R. Poole occupies the post of raconteur. Miss Kate Kildare's orchestra, in high-class musical specialities; the Schafers, smart musical eccentrics; Mr Allan Hanbury, comedian; Mr Ben Barnes, tenor; Miss Jessie Anderson; Miss Kildare, violin and 'cello soloist; and Fanning's clever marionettes.

GREAT GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr S. Tolfree.—The musical comedy *The Merry Mormon* has been here this week, and has proved a bright and entertaining show. Mr Harry Kilburn is the moving spirit of the company, he representing the twin brothers, Lord Robert Gillon and the Hon. John Gillon, between whom a remarkable resemblance exists. This leads to mistaken identity, and consequently laughable complications. Miss Millicent Pyne is charming as Lady Barbara Winterby; Miss Ruth Grosvenor submits an excellent impersonation of the maid, Maggie M'Kay; Mr J. Harold Carson gives complete satisfaction as Tomson; and Mr Thomas Kennard as the Earl of Winterby and Miss Kathleen Gerard as Mrs Pepperano are good.

HIPPODROME.—This week Mahatma, a mysterious lady who displays a variety of powers, has attracted considerable attention at the Hippodrome. She gives demonstrations of thought reading and second sight, together with puzzling manipulations of cards. The Mezzettis give a smart gymnastic performance on the triple and horizontal bars. A capital musical turn is that of the Sevilles. They play a variety of instruments. Coran contributes a novel and amusing ventriloquial speciality. Clarence and Bell cause much laughter with their original patter, and other good turns are Emmie Milstead, comedienne; Fred Walker, comedian, and Kenna Russell, burlesque actress. For Thursday evening benefit performances were arranged for Mr H. F. Miller, the popular manager.

PIER GARDENS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr W. T. Bolland.—Mr Charles Parker's Æolian opera party, a favourite combination of artists with pier patrons, has provided the concerts here this week. Their selections from the modern comic operas and musical comedies have been greatly enjoyed.

HALIFAX.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—At the head of a well-diversified bill here are the Bonhair-Gregory Troupe of acrobats and Risley performers, who go through an exceedingly clever performance; Alexander Bevan, bass vocalist, is in great demand; Albert Le Fre is versatile, and his little scena is admirably worked; Harry Maynard sings well; the Two Tees give a funny performance; Tambo and Tambo are expert tambourine spinners; Nora Emerald is particularly neat in her dancing; and Keith and Merson have a good reception.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Steuart Cecil.—Alec Hurley, supported by a company, is having a good reception here in *The Costers' Friendly Lead*. Harry Edson, with his well-trained dog, has an interesting show; Dorothy L. Clark has a good voice, and her songs are well rendered; G. W. Hunter, comedian and raconteur, keeps the house in good humour what time he is on the stage; the Sisters Neilson dance with vigour and abandon; Marco, juggler, is smart; Souplessi is a marvellous contortionist; and Tom Parker sings comic songs.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr R. Hullah.—Mr Eugène Stafford's company in *The Private Secretary* opened a farewell visit here on Monday. The farcical comedy was a big success. Mr Geoffrey Guise was admirable as the Curate, and Mr W. Hargreaves' delineation of the irrepressible Mr Cattermole was excellent. Mr Wilfrid Compton was good as Mr Gibson. Miss Dora Gray, Miss F. Tressillian, and other members of the company played their respective parts remarkably well. Mr Chas. Windermere and Mr E. Oswald Brookes' company in *The New Housemaid* was announced for Thursday.

KURSAAL. — Manager, Mr H. J. Dacre.—Madame Siviter is the vocalist at the concerts here this week; and the Four Wesselys, jugglers, and the Princess Te Ranji Pai, contralto, are also in the programme.

HARTLEPOOL.

EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs Councillor Everton and Cragg; Manager, Mr Harry Burns.—The list of attractions here is headed by the Staigs, in their sensational motor riding in mid-air round a bottomless track. Their performance is witnessed with the utmost tension of excitement, and greeted with unbounded applause. Chinko, the boy juggler, aided by a very clever assistant, does some remarkable feats of juggling; Wee Mona, an extraordinarily clever youngster, is received with enthusiasm in her coon songs and dances; the Donatos, one legged acrobats, do a novel turn which is much appreciated; the Sisters Poole, duettists and dancers, excel in the latter line; some very amusing patter by Ike Scott and Son goes well, and other turns which prove acceptable are Hetty Urma, coon comedienne and dancer, and Walter Blake, comedian and dancer. Some capital films of *East Lynne* on the Burns Bioscope are also to be seen.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr George H. Gaze.—Messrs J. F. Preston and P. E. Doherty's company on Monday introduced to Hastings Max Goldberg's romantic drama *Lady Godiva*. The title-rôle was played with much dramatic force by Miss Hilda Shirley; the lady Aldyth, her sister, was very commendably presented by Miss Georgie Walton; Leofric, Earl of Mercia, was played by Mr Alfred D. Adams in a fine martial spirit; Mr James E. Page successfully delineated the treachery of Algra, the supposed Earl of Northumbria; and had able support in his villainy from Mr Hardy E. R Macro as Unwolf. Mr F. B. Woulfe played very ably as Tom o' Coventry, and Edgar had a good representative in Mr W. Howard Barlow. Miss Nina Westleigh gave valuable assistance as Elfrida, and the necessary comedy was exceptionally well supplied by Mr Sidney Benson as Rubin Shacklebolt. Mr A. D. Adams stage-managed.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr John D. Hunter.—A revival of *Our Boys* is heartily welcomed here. As Perkyn Middlewick Mr Hunter puts plenty of healthy vigour into its embodiment. Mr Walter Russell gives all the dignity that the character of Sir Geoffrey Champneys demands; Mr Talbot Homewood is natural as Charles Middlewick; and Mr A. B. Tapping is equally successful as Talbot Champneys; Miss Ethel Griffies and Miss Edith Cartwright give charming impersonations of the cousins, sweet of voice, bright, fresh and girlish; Miss Eva Bayley does justice to the part of Clarissa Champneys; and as Belinda Miss Blanche Bayley shows true dramatic talent, her performance being as intelligent as it is amusing.

ST. LEONARD'S PIER PAVILION.—Local Manager, Mr Elvey Thomas; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh. — The reappearance at St. Leonards Pier of the fine collection of cinématograph films gathered from various episodes in naval life is this week proving if possible more popular than ever. The entertainment, which is travelling under the direction of Mr Alfred West, has amused and instructed London and provincial audiences for no less than five seasons. The scenes are remarkably free from flicker, and the many incidents chosen are most realistic. To judge from the appreciation shown at the seaside the subject is evidently a popular one round our coast.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur.—*The Red Signal*, which is being played here by Mr Sydney Vereker and company, is truly described as a thrilling drama. Mr George Langdon as Sir Otto Darkwood, the sleek villain, is with his companions Culver (Mr Whitmore Ledger) and Florence Culver (Miss Norah Caronne) responsible for the thrills of excitement. Miss Ella Sennett is charmingly sympathetic as the much-tried heroine, May Sorrell, whose lover, Jack Darkwood, manfully played by Mr Chas. V. Sandford, is the victim of many plots. Ample light relief is provided by Mr L. Vereker as Sammy Gay and Miss Flo Banister as Jenny Jones. The play is well staged.

HULL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr W. F. Morton.—That old favourite, *The Octoroon*, is filling the house this week, Mr J. F. Elliston having sent an excellent company to represent it. In addition to the play, some excellent Bioscope pictures interest.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr John Hart; Local Manager, Mr H. Esden.—*The Scarlet Woman*, a play quite new to the city, is proving very attractive. It is full of all those elements that spell success.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Sole Owner, Mr W. Morton; Manager, Mr Geo. Morton.—A strong play, and capitally interpreted by Miss Marie Menzies' company, entitled *The Rogue's Daughter*, is drawing crowded houses. Here, too, the Bioscope is shown, much to the delight of the vast audience.

PALACE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Local Manager, Mr A. Graham.—A very taking sketch is that of *Hooked by Crook*, as presented by Homer B. Mason and Marguerite Keeler. It is much appreciated. Rosie Bartlett, comedian and dancer, is clever. *The Bricklayers*, presented by the Bolsset Troupe, keeps the house well amused.

ALHAMBRA.—Resident Manager, Mr C. J. Bartleet Perry.—Paulton and Dooley, Harry Conlin, an old pantomime favourite; Billy Williams, Harvey Boys, the Great Vincent, Clara Victor, balladist; and Jean Mora and La Belle Lola all excel in their espective lines.

HANLEY.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr James Wynes.—Mr Charles Harrington's company is paying a welcome visit in the ever-popular piece *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. A good number of coloured people are carried, and the mounting is excellent. Several capital specialities are introduced, which are much appreciated. Mr J. Carr as Uncle Tom is well placed, his acting being of a capital order; Little Minnie as Eva deserves much praise for her clever interpretation; Miss Annie Watson as Topsy is most amusing; Mr W. H. Nott, with a good tenor voice, renders his items cleverly; Mr Iky Jones dances admirably, and Mr Will Pettitt as a banjoist is most skilful.

ILKESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr L. F. A. Rogers.—This week we have Miss Bonwin Carlton's company in the sensational drama *The Plucky Nipper*. Mr T. W. Lawrence is well placed as Colonel Fenwick, Mr Claude Kingston acts the banker, Henry Paget, admirably, and Mr Leonard Fane is pleasing as Captain Frank Leslie. As Richard Vanbruh Mr Lawrence Konrad plays with skill, Mr Norman Pardoe in the part of Tommy Atkins is lively, and Mr Edward Surrey excels as Bill Burgess. Miss May Woodward is a capable Ida Fenwick, Miss Esther Lamonte is interesting as Daisy Paget, the blind girl, and Miss Bonwin Carlton is deserving of great praise for her acting as the Plucky Nipper.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr J. Richards.—The new arrivals are Vosper, the master mimic; Vivian Loftus, serio; Marion Blake, comedienne; and Gerald Lopez, comedian.

POPLAR PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Jabez Barber.—Additional attractions this week are Miss Nellie Elder, comedienne; Bob Gardner, vocalist; Hugo, the aerial wonder; Ethel Trevor, ballad vocalist; Clemo Fosterlo, mimic and comedian; and the only White Negro.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson.—Messrs F. Benton and Sidney Rennef's company is paying a first visit with *A Life's Story*. Mr Andrew Money gives a powerful rendering of Count Bergen, being ably assisted by Mr Robert Purdie as Dr. Laffer. Mr Chas. A. Leicester is excellent as Capt. Jack Temple; Mr Sidney Rennef submits a good account of the dual-rôle of Max Clifford and Frank Clifford; Mr H. C. Lanelly handles the part of Tom Berry with skill; and Mr Lance Usher is quite at home in the character of Toni Cramonini, and has the able assistance of Miss Lillian Warren as Rosa, the flower girl. Miss Cora Linda as Beatrice soon makes herself a favourite, and Miss Amy Ellam is effective as Zelia, the adventuress.

KETTERING.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Payne.—Messrs Garside, Knowles, and Ludlow's company are here with *The London Fireman*. Mr Hodgson Taylor plays the hero in good style, and Mr Edward Garside presents a fine character study of Henry Curtis. Mr J. Forbes Knowles as Bill Stinger gives an excellent rendering, and the comic element is well sustained by Mr Percy Maitland as Iva Bloomer and Miss Nellie Garside as Polly Bramble. The acting of Miss Gertrude Price as Ida Curtis is much admired.

LEAMINGTON.

CORPORATION MUSIC SEASON.—Director, Mr C. S. Birch.—Prince Fee-Lung, a remarkably clever juggler, conjuror, and equilibrist, is appearing at the concerts this week, and his feats are being received with great applause. The Municipal Orchestra is going as strong as ever.

LEEDS.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr Fredk. Vincent.—This week the Russell-Rosse répertoire company is engaged here. The members on Monday were seen to great advantage in Sydney Grundy's clever comedy *A Pair of Spectacles*. Mr David James presented the part of Goldfinch in admirable style; Mr Frederick Powell was also successful as Uncle Gregory; a charming portrayal of Mrs Goldfinch came from Miss Muriel Godfrey-Turner; Miss Ruby Garman gave a pleasing impersonation of Lucy Lorimer; and other leading parts were equally well played by Mr Lewis Willoughby, Mr Maurice Denham, and Mr W. Lawson Butt. The three last nights of the week were reserved for the presentation of *Caste*.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr R. Ernest Liston.—*What a Woman Did* is attracting considerable patronage to Mr Macnaghten's popular theatre. Mr Wm. A. Armour, Mr Frank Adair, Miss Dora Price, and Miss Louise Cove capably portray the leading parts, and the company all round is one of considerable merit.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Chas. Bush.—This popular suburban house is given over for a season to a variety programme, interspersed with a series of excellent topical and local animated pictures by the North American Photo. Company, whose energetic manager, Mr Ralph Pringle, is responsible for the whole show. A comic sketch by Brady and Johnson is thoroughly enjoyed; Lehman is a notable success as a novelty ventriloquist; Onda and Leon, triple bar performers, do some clever feats; illustrated songs by Miss Le Clair are a welcome feature; and other popular items are submitted by Miss Pansie D'Alforde, solo violinist; and the Musical Dots, two expert juvenile musicians.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Moss Empires, Limited; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen.—The famous humourist and raconteur, R. G. Knowles, is in great form here with songs and stories, new and racy, and is largely responsible for the crowded state of this popular hall during this present week, and the great Scotch comedian, W. F. Frame, is also accorded an appreciative welcome and subscribes his usual strong turn. A diverting comedy and juggling act by Radford and Valentine comes in for considerable applause, and amongst the most popular items must be placed Victoria Monks, whose coon song and dance are clever and effective. Cullen and Carthy, eccentrics, are a most amusing pair; May Lilian Levey, an accomplished comedienne, scores a great success; Flo Deighton is a soprano vocalist of merit; Hamilton Hill also favours with well-rendered vocal items; and the programme also includes George Barron, comedian; the Oswald Sisters, vocalists and dancers; and Bert Brantford, comedian.

TIVOLI. — Proprietor, Mr Thos. Barrasford; General Managers, Messrs Edgar O. Waller and Chas. Weldon.—The Three Laurels submit a clever and original acrobatic act with great success; the Musical Avolos are also popular with expert xylophone selections; Kioto, the marvellous Japanese equilibrist, gets through a wonderful exhibition; Francois Rothig does a smart conjuring turn; Clarke's Nippers appear with a good juvenile speciality act; the Three Prestons present a clever new comedy sketch; comedy acrobatics by Burke and M'Voy are very well received; Bert Byrne, comedian, and Lall Cliff and Lily Flexmore, comediennes, are also appearing; and a remarkably fine series of animated pictures completes the bill.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Jones.—That successful comedian Sam Mayo, with good new songs and a quaintly original style, is having a great week here, with vociferous encores at every performance; Harry Coates, the mavvy vocalist, repeats previous successes; the clever comedy pair Doody and Wright fairly take the popular fancy with some smart business; Henry Bekker scores a big success; Nash and Noel, comedians, are a decidedly amusing turn; and the programme is completed by Jack Heath, comedian; Daisy Silcott, comedienne; and Sibb and Sibb, expert bar artistes.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Business-Manager, Mr Geo. M. Slater.—Miss Grace Warner has been a frequent visitor to Leicester, but the present occasion is the first time this clever actress has been seen in musical comedy, and in *The New Commander* she has an attraction that affords a most agreeable evening's entertainment. The leading part, that of Violet Flintheart, is well sustained by Miss Warner, her songs being given in excellent style. Miss Polly Prim does well as Vivette. Mr George Gordon as Lieutenant Frank Harding and Mr Crouch Johns as Lieutenant Jack Tremingway are both good. Mr Edward Mervyn causes much laughter as the waiter, Tittums. Mr Bernard Wyntour is also well placed as the Sultan of Ramjamjah. The Primrose Quartet adds to the attractiveness of the "show" by several clever dances.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal.—At the head of the attractive programme here this week is Fred Karno's company of comedians, in a new edition of the musical pantomimical extravaganza *The Dandy Thieves*, which creates endless laughter. The cast on the present visit is somewhat different, Harry Roxbury being Sergeant Lightning, Andrew Higginson Lord Easem, and Leonora Castelle Lady Maud. These three artists are most successful exponents of their various parts, and the Grecian Comedy Quartet of part-singers are very good. At the other end of the bill are George Spry and Florrie Austin, comedy artists, whose delightful turn gives the utmost satisfaction. May Henderson, a big favourite here, repeats her usual success on a return visit. Foreman and Fannan are a couple of drolls who cause much hilarity; the Miles-Stavordale Quintet are a remarkably smart turn, their imitation of the human voice on strings being especially noteworthy; the Mayvilles (Harry and Elsie) score a decided success with their Liliputian novelty act; Austin Rudd, in old and new successes, does as well as ever; Signor and Madame Borelli are popular with their humorous and musical entertainment, which has the merit of originality; Vi Holmes is a dancer of exceptional ability.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—A capital bill is presented here this week, the premier position being held by Blanche and Diacoff, who score a success on a return visit with their daring and sensational cycle act on the tea-cup track; Zeta Grey and company create a good impression in a new and original absurdity entitled *The Lancashire Lass*; the Florodora Girls are vivacious vocalists and acrobatic dancers; Edna Cragg, burlesque actress, is a delightful turn; Ryde and Beeman are smart acrobatic grotesques; Percy Hannan, boy baritone vocalist, is good; Kathleen Gray, burlesque actress, does well; Alf Passmore, eccentric comedian, also entertains.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—The principal turn this week is provided by the Lukushima Troupe of Japanese equilibrists, who give a clever performance. Miss Lil Esplin, refined comedienne, is well received; Kavados, novelty juggler and cannon-ball king, submits a performance of extraordinary strength and skill; Sergeant-Major Parkinson, late of 11th Hussars, recites "The Charge of the Light Brigade" in fine style; Mr Lauri Wylie and his mimicking mannikin are exceptionally good; Mr W. H. Tyler, character vocalist, does full justice to his songs; Miss Rosa Rosetti, violinist, is pleasing; and Mr Fred Bronte, actor-vocalist, is effective.

LINCOLN.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Charles Schuberth.—This week, the last of the season, a bill of real quality is presented, every turn being of merit. Millie Hylton pays a first visit and takes her audiences by storm. Martine, with his "nest of vipers," contributes a contortion turn far smarter than the ordinary; Harry Bickley is an amusing comedian; the Artells give a smart bar act; Lily Turner is an entertaining vocalist; Kitts and Windrum present a clever sketch *The Entr'acte*; the Gracio Trio are classy acrobats; and a novel turn is presented by Abd'el Kaden, paper manipulator, &c.

LIVERPOOL.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Licensee, Mr J. G. Howard; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Montgomery, jun.—A strong military drama, entitled *Dishonoured*, is being given here this week by a capable company belonging to Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr J. Leicester. The work, which is from the pen of Mr Arthur St. John, who plays the part of Philip Cunningham, the unfortunate soldier, with undoubted merit, is full of romance and absorbing incidents. Among the principal artistes is Miss Winifred Stuart, who gives a powerful impersonation of Leslie Maynard, afterwards Mrs Philip Cunningham. The scenery is very appropriate.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—An exceptionally good programme is drawing excellent business here. The New York Comedy Four are loudly applauded for their singing; the Eight Lancashire Lads take well; Conn and Conrad are very amusing; Frank Wood is loudly applauded for his finished singing; the Sivado Troupe of lady cyclists are clever; Rappo is also a fine acrobat; Edie Endon a capable vocalist and dancer; and Russell Hatton is good in character sketches. To-day the management has very kindly handed the theatre over for a special matinée performance for the benefit of the widow of Lewis Jones, the police constable who was killed whilst endeavouring to stop a runaway horse.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Harris Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons.—Mr James Hare's company have occupied the boards here this week with the comedy-drama, *The Golden Chance*, by Mr S. A. Miller. The story is well told by an able combination of artistes, among whom are Mr James Hare (Stephen Clinton), Mr Herbert M. King (Hubert Zac), Mr T. Denbigh (money-lender), Mr Albert H. Clarke (signalman), Miss Agatha Halford (Lady Hastings), Miss Irene Clifford (Viva Zac), Miss Jennie Hallworth, and Miss Ethel Carlisle.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; General Manager, Mr F. Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A. Cook.—An exceptionally attractive programme being provided here during the week, crowded houses have been the rule. Foremost is Harry Lauder, the Scotch comedian, who is always sure of a warm welcome in Liverpool. Mr George Gray and company of 100 artists put in a second week with *The Fighting Parson* sketch; and Syd May's mimicry, especially his imitations of music hall performers, provokes much merriment. Boswell's circus of educated horses, donkeys, and dogs is a pleasing turn; the Wille Bros. perform some clever head and hand balancing acts; and others on the bill are Maud Venn, comedienne; Billy Hobbs, coon comedian and dancer; La Berat's Serpentine dance interlude "A Dreamer's Vision;" Geraldo, American club juggler; Mabel La Blanche, comedienne; Edith Courtney, ballad vocalist; and the Three Ramoniers, with their ladder-balancing act. An interesting item is the performance by Mr Walter Hague's orchestra of Tschaikowsky's overture "1812."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—A crowded bill of artistes is submitted here this week, at the top of which are Prevost and Prevost, in an exceedingly funny absurdity entitled *Fun in a Turkish Bath*. Nellie Vonare, with her remarkable powers as a contortionist, secures the interest of her auditors; the Goldini Trio of acrobats and carpet spinners find their clever work cordially appreciated, and other turns are Jack Pheasants, comedian; Alf Lawton, songs and sayings; Corty Bros., burlesque wrestlers; Vera Patey, vocalist; Mons. Henri, equilibrist and gymnast; Bob Hutt, comedian; Cook and Rothert, clever dancers and burlesque jugglers; and the Bioscope.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr F. O'Toole.—Since the adoption of the two-houses-a-night system here public patronage has been very cordial. The lengthy programme this week is headed by Little Ganty, comedian, described as the "little lump of fun;" and others are Tom Maxwell and Virginia Frances, vocalists and speciality artistes, with a flirtation comedy; Madge May, comedienne; Pete and Minnie Lee, black and white comedy artistes; Edith St. Clare, burlesque actress; Clarke and Argyle, international dancers and pipers; Allison Brothers, comedians and dancers; and the Bioscope.

PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr Edwin W. Smith.—This cosy place, which has been recently reconstructed and redecorated, is largely visited by pleased audiences. This week the top of the bill is occupied by the Breton Troupe of pantomimists, who come for the first time. They are six in number, and their farcical absurdity *A Tramp's Picnic* causes lots of fun. Prince Bendon is a smart ventriloquist and comedian, and his entertainment: "Wonderful Sleigh Bell Ringers," which is worked by electricity, proves very interesting. Others included in the programme are Curtis and Vanity, the American comedians; George Reeves, eccentric comedian; the Sisters Brooklands, comediennes and dancers; and Harry French, comedian and dancer.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr J. Kiernan.—An amusing extravaganza, entitled *Left Luggage*, has proved a good attraction here this week, Sill and Sillcott, the silent comedians, being responsible for it; the Three Macs provoked much laughter with their quaint patter and actions; Merton and Roydon gave a refined performance as duettists and dancers; Frank Mulvaney introduced some catchy songs and choruses; and the remainder of the programme was filled by Silly Lever and Rose Conroy, the Bioscope, and the cake walk competitions.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery.—The Albano Family make their first appearance here with their musical mélange, and have been well received; Lachie Thompson's Topweights prove attractive with their boxing, wrestling, and club swinging business; Arthur M'Nab is a very young vocalist, with accomplishments; Harry Naylor is popular as a "curious" comedian; Denby and Dent give a neat comedy act; and a pleasant turn is that of Happy Attwood, the baby impersonator.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—This popular place of amusement at the south end continues to be well patronised by those who do not care to make a long journey to the centre of the city, and the programmes provided are generally fairly good. This week we have Alphonso Gerard with his cleverly-trained lions and tigers, who go through some surprising tricks; Bromley and Fontein are funny comedians; eccentric pianoforte playing and good dancing are the specialities of Leighton and Mona; Walter Purvis is a patter comedian; and other turns are given by Sylvester and Sylvester, cake walk dancers; Annie Hallwood, lady tenor; and the bioscope.

MANCHESTER.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr George Lee.—Mr Arthur Hare and his company opened here on Monday in *The Eiderdown Quilt*, a farcical comedy, which was well played, and proved fairly satisfactory to an audience content to leave out of reckoning the question of probability. The humour is distributed about the doings of the spurious Prince Da Bologna (Mr Arthur Hare), Captain Bernard (Mr Garnet Wilson), and Patricia Caudebec (Miss Nora Greenlaw), each of whom does well with the available opportunities for creating laughter. Beside the affairs of this trio, a pleasing love interest is interwoven, in which Miss Daisy Markham as Rosamond figures quite admirably. Other parts are well played by Mr Montague Rutherfurd, Mr Clifford Leyler, Mr E. Frederick Meads, Miss Mary Conroy, and Miss Dora Fellowes. The piece is preceded by the Screen scene from *The School for Scandal*, which is excellently played.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr H. M. Thorburn.—Mr Charles R Stone's company in *What Became of Mrs Rackett?* occupies the boards here this week. The piece is full of life, and is played with commendable vivacity, the fun being wholly of the irresponsible kind. Mr Charles R. Stone is particularly busy throughout the three acts, Mr Jack Hames as Timothy Tolman, Mr Harry Herbert as Robert Rackett, and Mr S. Junior as Hobson, the waiter, being also conspicuous among the males; while Miss Edith Madelle plays strongly as Mrs Rackett, and is ably assisted by Miss Emily Kelsey and Miss Daisy Stone. Some good dancing is contributed by Misses Jennie and Alice Temple and Miss Letitia Flopp. The scenery is bright and satisfactory.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson's excellent drama, *Rogues and Vagabonds*, is being played here this week by Mr Harry Esden's company, who give a capital interpretation of a story well equipped with interesting and well-defined characters. The heroic element is effectively expounded by Mr John C. Carlyle and Miss Hetty Senior, Mr Bernard Llell and Miss Georgette Thierry showing to advantage in sinister parts. Most of the humour is supplied by Mr John Cullen as Nathan Baxter, and Mr Frank Denis has a good part as P. C. Clegg. Miss Marjory Armstrong deserves high praise for her depiction of Ben, a homeless lad. The play is effectively staged.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Wm. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Launceston Elliott, the man of muscle, figures at the head of a capital programme at this popular house. Fanny Robina, burlesque and character actress, sings in her usual attractive style; Kurtz, the Mexican juggler, introduces a number of clever feats; a pleasing musical comedy act is contributed by the Four Burgatiles; Lynn, the singing newsboy, is well received; and the Korries are very entertaining in their musical act. The programme is satisfactorily completed by Florrie Cooper, juvenile vocalist; the Sisters Edwards, vocalists and dancers; Cliffe Dover, comedian; and the Three Crystals, acrobatic dancers.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr John Walters; Acting-Manager, Mr Richard Nightingale.—Messrs Walters and Levey's Pierrots are giving a pleasing entertainment here this week.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Mr John F. Preston presents here this week an interesting drama of local interest, namely, *The Streets of Manchester*. As is usual with Mr Preston's (Max Goldberg) work, the story is plentifully relieved by humorous incidents and novel effects, the most notable of the latter being, in this instance, a realistic fire tableau, with engines, horses &c., and a nine stone champion boxing contest between Mitchell, of Manchester, and Jack Lang, of Scotland. Mr Preston himself is conspicuous in the cast, and the company supporting him are capable throughout, Mr Edward Louis and Miss Effie Barlett doing especially well in heroic rôles.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Richard Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Berry.—Mr William Wade's scenic historical play, *Old Manchester*, still occupies the boards here.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. E. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Flem and Brok, Continental eccentrics and aerial boxers, top the bill here this week in a novel and well-received acrobatic act; Mdlle. Flora Lumière, the well-known butterfly and fire-dancer, introduces a beautiful scena "The Fairy Grotto," which helps to set off her graceful movements; the Original Ottawa Trio provide a delightful musical performance; Cyrus Dare, a clever child mimic, causes much laughter with his "little children" stories; and Inez Clough is a good ballad vocalist. An original and smart act is that of the Arizona Trio; Drum and Major score in patter and bâton-spinning; and the Padleys are clever and amusing acrobats. The programme is completed by Little Mike Cray and his dog, comedy jugglers; Will Percival, comedian and dancer; Bert Lytton, swell comedian; and the Hippodrome pictures.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—The principal attraction this week is the sensational cycling act, "Whirling the Whirl," of Tom Davies, which holds the audience breathless. Blanche, a clever quick-change artist, gives sketches of national characters, aided by various pleasing mechanical effects. Alba and Alma score highly in their expert juggling performance, and considerable amusement is afforded by Mike Johnston and company in *Capers in a Café*; Cullane Trio, singers and burlesque boxers; the Three Henriques, eccentric acrobats of exceptional ability; and Clown Barker, whose well-trained animals are especially pleasing to the juveniles. Annie Seale, the Salford singing mill girl, meets with a warm reception; and Percy Curry, comedian, makes a hit with his "Competition" song. Minnie Palmerston, comedian, and the animated pictures complete the programme.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—Deservedly well received are the Three Sisters Jonghmans, whose beautiful rendering of harmonised songs is an artistic treat. The Stella Troupe are graceful and expert dancers; Bessie Featherstone is a pleasing comedienne; Will Letters, comedian, causes endless amusement with his entertaining stories; the Freans, in a comedy act, *Looking for Trouble*, are decidedly funny; and capital patter and excellent dancing is introduced by the Knick-Knacks, in their speciality; R. C. Note, comedian; Pat Rafferty, Irish comedian; and Nellie Young, serio, complete the bill.

GRAND.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford and Will Sley; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—Outstanding turns here this week are Morcaschani, "La Belle Creole," baritone vocalist, who sings in excellent style; the Max Trevally-Harley Troupe of exceptionally clever comedy acrobats; and De Henau, who paints, eats and drinks, and shuffles cards by means of his toes. Eller and Rose are capital sketch artists; Flo Mellville is a charming comedienne; and Jack and Evelyn are expert sand dancers; Sylvo gives a pleasing musical act; Aladina introduces her wonderful performing cockatoos; and Johnson and Bert are clever knockabouts. A series of animated pictures complete the bill.

PALACE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr P. Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—Remaining from last week are the excellent turns of Fred Karno's speechless comedians, in *Early Birds* and *Hilarity*, and Charles Mildare, comedian and whistler. The newcomers include the Brothers Egbert, whose unique performance as the eccentric happy dustman is, as usual, exceedingly funny, and productive of continuous and uncontrolable laughter. The Brothers Redmond, eccentric comedians, are also mirth producers, and come in for hearty applause. Rita Resdan, a dainty male impersonator, is well received; Gladys Mavius is a pleasing coon singer; and the Cape Girls are capable duettists and long-boot dancers. Other enjoyable items are Reilly and Taylor in a successful duologue, *Blotz and Klitz*; Marion Scott, comedienne; the Palace pictures, and a delightful selection by the orchestra.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—The New Century Pictures at this hall continue to attract large audiences with a long series of entertaining films of local and general interest.

MARGATE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr F. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr C. F. Bawtree.—Messrs Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company has appeared here this week with great success in the thrilling American drama, *The Still Alarm*. Unstinted applause has been awarded to the principals, and the efforts of those taking the smaller parts have met with due recognition. Mr Matthew Glenville has played the hero Jack Manley, the New York fireman, in a natural and easy style, at the same time bringing out to the full the forceful but carefully suppressed nature of the character. His business with the beautifully trained horses and his superb dog Laddie has evoked an immense amount of applause. The exciting scene in the last act where, as a supposed invalid, he entraps the villain and successfully tries conclusions with him, has been particularly well carried through. In the hands of Mr Robert Wilton John Bird has been made a consummate villain. His cool and collected manner, and the incisive and caustic delivery of his lines has been very effective. Mr Fred Osmond has been particularly good as the reformed drunkard, Doc. Wilber, his eccentric make-up being very amusing. Mr Tom Beasley as Willie Manley and Miss Hettie Zillwood as Carrie Zilber have contributed to the comedy part most successfully. Her song in the third act, "The good old summer time," and the Central Brigade Quartett, in concerted numbers and individual singing, have been excellent, and the applause bestowed well deserved. Miss Florence Palmer as the heroine, Elinore Fordham, has sustained her part admirably, the emotional side of the character being well displayed. Miss Vera Veriton has played capitally as Mrs Manley. The Central Fire Station is a most realistic scene, the turn-out of the brigade and horses being particularly effective and smartly worked.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson.—Frank M. Thorne's drama *Her One Great Sin* is going extremely well here this week. Miss Blanche St. Alban has a strong, emotional part as Grace Warhurst, and is artistic in all she does. Mr Sam Arthur is excellent as Reuben Warhurst, and Mr J. Leicester Jackson as the spendthrift, Arnold Thornhill, has a firm grasp of the character. Miss Maudie Lambert is intelligent as Little Gracie; Miss Phyllis Damain wins high praise for her impersonation of a flower-seller; and comedy parts are successfully interpreted by Mr Fred Hodson as Jerry Jumble, Mr Chas. L. Lambert as Dan Hundle, Mr Harold B. Ford as Jack Hundle, Miss Nellie Lambert as Nancy, and Miss Louie Walton as Bet Hundle.

MEXBOROUGH.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. H. Melton.—Mr Hy. Starr's company occupies the boards here this week with *Carl the Clockmaker*. Mr Hy. Starr stands out prominently as Carl Conrad, in which character he assumes numerous disguises with rare skill. Mr R. Harris is excellent as Maurice Helmore; Mr C. Cabe is distinctly good as Hans Conrad; the Arthur Allwood of Mr Wm. Miller is capital; Mr Jas. Turner plays cleverly in the rôle of Count Neikleviteh; Mr C. Clerke (Tom Naylor), and Mr A. Alexander (Narkey Nabbs) also do well. Miss Ethel Danbury makes a charming Lena Harrigan; and Miss Rita Rosslyn gives a sympathetic portraiture of Madge Ryder.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs George and Charles Imeson.—Mr Sydney Spencer's company, in the drama *The Hero of the Flag*, occupies the boards here. Mr Sydney Spencer plays the part of Paul Mansfield with much success, and Mr Arthur Elwyn's Jack Lawrence is a capital piece of acting. Mr G. F. Royd portrays Stephen Clifford to the satisfaction of the audience; and Captain Hilliard is in the capable hands of Mr Alfred Goddard. As Mabel Forrester Miss Lizzie Hall scores a great success; and Miss Ida Ernest represents Ruth Clifford with refinement; whilst Miss Maude Yorke as Jenny Stubbs makes a favourable impression.

OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Licensee, Mr T. Hopcutt.—Mr Kendal Chalmer's company in the farcical piece *Tom, Dick, and Harry*, is here. Mr Wordley Hulse gives a capital portrayal of General Rufus Stanhope, and Tom Stanhope is well embodied by Mr Phil Harper. As Dick and Harry Mr Ivan Gore and Mr Guy Ellis evoke continual roars of laughter. Mr Hewetson as Ned Morland is good. Miss Ada Mansfield in the part of Mrs Winters is deservedly successful, and Miss Mabel Verne is distinctly good as Molly Somers. Miss Christine Errington makes much of the part of Daisy Armitage, and Miss Nina Blake-Adams plays Isabel Howard very capably.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—Arthur Lennard heads the bill at the Empire and receives a good reception; Walter Groves and company, in their sketch *Artful Jim*, are very amusing; the songs of Charles R. Whittle, comedian, are greatly enjoyed; Seymour and Dupree's speciality turn includes some clever high jumping, and the Two Errolls, in a comedy leaping act, come in for well-earned applause. The Vernon Troupe are accomplished performers on the xylophone, whilst the Australian Twin Andersons, dancers, submit a capital turn. Miss Georgie May sings some good songs, and Miss Lizzie Fletcher, comedienne, is well received. A series of amusing films are shown on the Edisonograph.

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr Wm. Robinson; Manager, Mr Wm. Ainsworth.—At this place of amusement Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts occupy the premier position, and their sketch entitled *The Infant* is well received. A remarkable turn is given by Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, comedy cyclists; the popular Hebrew comedian, Gus Harris, meets with a flattering reception; Frank and Frank, comedy artistes, give a good show; Arthur Forrest is a smart comedian and dancer; George Wirson, equilibrist, contributes some distinct novelties; and the Two Emmets and Albert Darnley add much to the enjoyment. Some capital films are shown on the "Bio." Good houses rule.

NEW BRIGHTON.

TOWER THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Albert Bulmer.—The star attraction here this week is Mdlle. Florence, champion globe-walker, in her sensational act, in which she is assisted by Mdlle. Queenie. The rest of the company comprises Resford and Hunt (Ethel and Gerald), in their popular black and white speciality, *A Girl from Mobile*. Jas. Hanson, tenor; Walter Curtis, humorous entertainer; and the Hamiltons (Jack and Alice), popular speciality comedy duettists. The Biograph with the latest films of current events is also an attraction.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Acceptable entertainment of a light and diverting description is this week provided by the performance of the musical farce, *A Hot Night*, by Milton-Ray's company, under the direction of Mr Arthur Milton. An amiable and prepossessing Polly Drake continues to be found in Miss Susie Beaven, whose acting and singing are always calculated to please, and the Misses Madge and Jessie Wrae are again charmingly in evidence. A goodly share of the work falls to the lot of Mr Arthur Milton as the much-harassed Frank Frith, and his performance is redolent of quiet, pungent humour. Plenty of fun is also provided by Mr Rolando Martin as the irrepressible waiter, Whiffles; and Mr Clifford Morgan acts and sings capitally as the Professor; while useful impersonations are those of Mr Harry T. Butler as Mark Maybury, Mr Henry Osman as Fontenoy Flutterwig, and Mr Fred Mulvey as Captain Drake.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr T. W. Rowe.—*Her Fatal Past*, presented by Mr T. Edward Ward's company, is interesting audiences here this week. Miss Ward supplies some strong acting as Honour Symes, and Miss Lillie Monkton doubles the parts of Ruth Fernside and Belle de Lara with success in each case. The hero, Mark Dresmond, is forcibly portrayed by Mr Howard Douglas, and praise is due to Mr Wilson Coleman for his effective acting as the villain, Gilbert Fernside. Some enjoyable comedy work is furnished by Mr T. Edward Ward as the yokel, Jonathan Nobbs, and prominent in the lighter scenes are also Mr Algie Spalding as Dicky Bird and Miss Marie Ault as Kitty Springwell.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Sidney Bacon; Business-Manager, Mr Ernest Bacon.—From the neighbouring town of Gateshead, Milton-Ray's company has crossed the river Tyne, and taken possession here for one week only with *The Dark Egyptian*, a drama in which Heatonians have found much to admire, while their hearty commendation has also been secured for the manner in which the various characters are acted by the members of the excellent company engaged in its representation.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—*The Dandy Thieves*, one of Fred Karno's most popular sketches, is an important item in the bill this week. Included in the company is Dan Rolyat, who appears as Sergeant Lightning, a rôle which affords every chance of comic acting, and his exceedingly funny performance is productive of much merriment. One of our brightest and most pleasing comediennes, in Lil Hawthorn, is fulfilling a successful engagement, and she is warmly applauded for each of her charmingly rendered songs. Captain Slingsby presents his ventriloquial entertainment in an enjoyable manner, and Flo D'Orville's low comedy powers are well displayed in her contribution. There are also appearing Maud Courtney, American comedienne; Henry Taylor Trio, equilibrists; E. J. Sheldon, comedian; Will Mitcham, musical comedian; Maud Ross, comedienne; and Willie Haigh, the singing pit boy, all of whom add materially to the enjoyable nature of the whole performance by their acceptable efforts.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr Will H. Boardman.—The leading line here is occupied by Joe Elvin and company, who are appearing in *Money for Nothing*, an amusing sketch, with the treasure-hunting craze for its motive. As the country resident whose garden is invaded by the gold-seekers Mr Joe Elvin submits a characteristically humorous performance, and the members of the company give him excellent support. Sufficient testimony to Tom Lloyd's success is to be found in the big encore he receives, and Jonnny Danvers's contributions are well received. Shicklay's performing bears give an interesting performance. The Seven Picchianis, lady and gentleman acrobats, secure abundant applause for their skilful exhibition. Agnes Mahr, described as the American Tommy Atkins, is a proficient toe dancer. The fat boy from Peckham, Johnny Trundley, is introduced to the audience, and his superabundance of adipose tissue creates astonishment. Nellie Richardson, comedienne, and the Westwoods, comedy and expert cyclists, also appear successfully.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Sidney Cooper.—Mr Chas. March's company is here, in *The Priest of the Temple*. Mr C. March plays Valerius with a dignity that is fully recognised. Mr Ronald Bayne is an ideal Decus Fronto (the villainous priest), and Mr Edwin Lever's Appius Herdonius is marked by power and pathos. Miss Marie North plays Præstantia admirably, and Miss Evelyn Hope makes an excellent Polita.

EMPIRE.—Moss's Empires, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr O. Stoll.—Little Tich, who heads the bill here, is nightly receiving an ovation. Vasco, who manipulates quite a score of instruments, is a warm favourite. Slade Murray, a comedian of merit, is greeted with well-deserved applause. Lew Wells, in his bits of byplay, is enjoyable; Chas. F. Best is successful as Bunker, the Mountebank; Alexandra and Bertie do some clever work on the trapeze; and Frank Lynne, who sings some capital songs, is well received. Georgina Leonard, who possesses a beautiful voice, captivates the house with her rendering of her songs, and Burns and Evans, in "Funnabalism," are a source of much amusement.

NORWICH.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr F. W. Fitt.—Foremost on the attractive programme here is Mr R. A. Roberts, whose sketch concerning Dick Turpin meets with enthusiastic applause; the Remingtons in their gymnastic display have a good reception; Paul Vandy is a really clever juggler, and wins much favour; Wood and Merrion in their American specialty act create much laughter; the Four Trees sing and dance well; Helin and Cozens are amusing in their humorous sketch, *Doctor and Patient*; Mr Harry Albery is a prime favourite in his comic songs and patter, and his dancing is good; Foo-Choo, the Chinese juggler, gives a capital turn; and Bertha Winder, with her clog and big-boot dancing, and the Bioscope complete an excellent programme.

NOTTINGHAM.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Charles P. Cooke.—*I Defy the World*, an interesting drama, is well presented by Mr Julian Malvern's company. A forcible embodiment of Leon Darville is given by Mr Lewis Gilbert, who displays versatility in dealing with this fine character. The audacious villainy of Count De Beaulieu is capitally expressed by Mr J. W. Worley, who receives able assistance from Mr Charles Conway as Laroche. Mr Dunlop Stewart plays well as General Delaporte; Mr C. H. Raymond is an able exponent of André; Miss Augusta Tulloch assumes the part of Pauline Delaporte with grace and refinement; and Miss Lina Nazeby powerfully depicts the passionate and faithless Blanche Darville. Little Dorothy Vivian makes a pathetic figure of Fanchette; the heartiest amusement follows the efforts of Miss Maude Lillian (Marie Woozel) and Mr Charles M. Julian (Samuel Woozel), and other parts are well taken by Messrs Weedon Ross, Alfred Shaw, and Albert Ball.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Geo. H. Beagle.—A highly sensational play is seen in *A Faithful Friend*, in which the company organised by Messrs Leonard Pagden and Lewis Gilbert acquits itself well. Mr J. W. Henson represents the Yorkshire millionaire, John Tollerton, with adequate energy; Mr Williams D. Fazan creates the utmost repugnance by his convincing exposition of Harold Sefton's knavery; Mr Roy Byford gains much popularity as the volatile Sir Thomas Jones; Mr F. R. Dalton offers an agreeable portraiture of Squire Somerset; and Mr Alexander Wills give a fine performance of Harry Somerset. Miss Trissie Humphreys makes a tender and charming Mildred Marsden; Miss Ethel Grier's impersonation of the unhappy Ruth Mayfield is worthy of praise; and excellent work is shown by Miss Josephine Colona (Cynthia), Mrs Edgar Colona (Lady Jones), Mr Hilton Frances (Orsini), and Mr R. Waddington (a detective).

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—The Poluski Brothers may always be relied upon to provide a huge fund of amusement, and their latest idea *Motor Mania* gives them ample opportunities for doing so. The comical juggling entertainment of Griff is interspersed by smart and humorous patter; Mark Sheridan's contributions call forth uproarious merriment; and the whimsicalities of Barrett and Knowles compel hearty laughter. Stelling and Revell accomplish some clever feats on the horizontal bars; Stephens and Rennior gain a warm reception for their dancing; and the acrobatic feats of the Sisters Lee receive commendation. The impersonations by the Sisters Govell brings out well-merited applause, and praise should be given to Daisy Martell, dancer, and Will Johnson, comic. An ingenious arrangement whereby the stage is flooded with 10,000 gallons of water provides the means for a laughter-provoking entertainment by several comedians.

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LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

HIS MAJESTY'S.

The revival of *Twelfth Night* at His Majesty's Theatre on Monday, with Miss Tree as Viola, had a special interest in view of the successful first London appearance of the young débutante in the part of Sebastian's twin sister at the matinée given at the same house a week ago last Tuesday in aid of the Fresh Air Fund. Miss Tree's presentment of the character is indeed delightful. Her impersonation of the page Cesario gives evidence of something more than careful training and study. She brings to her work a touch of nature—the attractive spell of her own personality—which is irresistible. Nor is she less agreeable in Viola's more serious moods. Appreciation of her talent was keen in Monday's audience, and she had to respond to numerous calls before the curtain. As Malvolio, Mr Tree again gave his fine study of the bumptious, officious, and self-impressed steward, and most effectively depicted his comical conceit and absurd dignity. The support was the same as at the matinée. Mr Lionel Brough submitted a clever and laughable performance of Sir Toby Belch, and Mr Norman Forbes presented a capital characterisation of Sir Andrew Aguecheek. Mr Julian L'Estrange imparted manliness to his performance as Orsino, his acting throughout being distinctly good. Sebastian was well represented by Mr Charles Quartermaine, and Mr William Haviland made the most of the quips and cranks of Feste. Miss Constance Collier was very engaging as Olivia; Miss Cecily Richards as Maria was very lively and piquant; and Mr Oscar Asche appeared to advantage as the bold and virile Antonio. Mr Eric Leslie did praiseworthy work as Curio, and Mr P. R. Goodyer displayed ability as Valentine. Mr J. Fisher White proved an able sea captain, and Mr Cecil Rose deserved recognition as Fabian. Mr Francis Chamier and Mr J. Fraser as the first and second officers did well what was required of them.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, June 13, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Howard, entitled
"TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS."

Highly creditable performances of *Two Little Sailor Boys*, a drama of considerable interest, are being given at the Standard this week. Mr W. H. Hallatt as Commander Noel Tregarthen possesses a thorough grasp of the character, and plays throughout in a manly and earnest style, making his interpretation a conspicuous success. As Lieut. Richard Redstone Mr Leonard Booker shows ability and acts well, whilst Mr George Cecil Murray sustains the part of Admiral Grey in an able and distinguished manner. Mr Oscar Power is an amusing Jack Jolly, and Mr Tom E. Sinclair gets as much fun as possible out of the rôle of Ben Baxter, and raises many a hearty laugh by his droll performance. A powerful portrayal of Captain Tom Yorke is given by Mr Victor Gardom, who renders the part through with every sign of success. A capable impersonation of the burglar, Jim Royston, is submitted by Mr Ambrose Horton. Miss Blanche Steele acts with force and power as the scheming Lola Grey, whilst Miss Marie Daventry contributes an earnest and deeply impressive delineation of Mildred Grey. Miss Connie Meadows is a lively Lucy Wilson, Miss Effie D. Crawford acts extremely well as Cyril Grey, and Miss Ethel Frances is deserving of much praise for the admirable manner in which she sustains the rôle of Tom Yorke. The minor parts are in good hands, and the mounting and staging of the piece are all that can be desired.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, June 13, the American Drama, by S. F. Cody, entitled
"THE KLONDYKE NUGGET."

Mr S. F. Cody's company with *The Klondyke Nugget* is paying a welcome visit here, and played to a good house on Monday, the various exciting incidents receiving significant marks of approval. The drama is well mounted and staged, and the shooting exhibition by Messrs Vivian and Leon Cody is singularly clever, whilst the introduction of some trained horses greatly enhances the success. In the difficult rôle of the scheming Sam Deats, alias George Exelby, Mr Edward Leroy is seen to excellent effect. Mr Leon Cody as Waco, an Indian chief, rides his horse in clever style and plays his part in a creditable manner. The hero, Joe Smith, stands out prominently by the quiet and effective acting of Mr Vivian Cody, and Mr Doc Horsfall wins applause as Tom Lee. Dr. Paddy O'Donohue receives a typically Irish portrayal from Mr Tom Gilmore, who causes much amusement. A powerful delineation of Bill Sykes is given by Mr Fred W. Garth, and Mr George Leigh is capital as Jim Wilson, the sheriff. Mr Arthur Moreton is seen to advantage as Judge Matherson, and Mr George West is convincing as Ted Lee. Miss Edith Mumford gives an energetic and tactful impersonation of Rosie Lee, and Nellie is commendably played by Miss Ivy Luck. Mr Joe Clarke is a humorous Henri Garcon, and satisfactory work is done by Mr William Graham as Steve Gray, Mr Hal Du Cane as the Usher, Mr Albert Hendly as Raven, Mr Graham Hart as Captain Barnes, and Mr Arthur Black as a Nigger beggar. The Cowboy Band was well applauded for their selections at the commencement of the third act, and the scenic arrangements are all that can be desired.

THE SURREY.

On Monday, June 13, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Fred Moule, entitled
"IN THE GRIP OF THE LAW."

Mr George Conquest evidently means to mark the closing weeks of his lesseeship here by giving his patrons the best of dramatic fare, for Messrs Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls's famous, exciting, and amusing drama, *In the Grip of the Law*, which is paying its first visit here this week, interpreted by an excellent company, is superior in many respects to the general run of dramas on tour. It is too late in the day to tell the love-story of Dave Arkwright and the "pure white Rose," Rose Hockaday, but it is not too late to accord those members of the company who have been so long associated with their parts a special word of praise for a performance that "age does not seem to wither nor custom to stale." This is most noticeable in the case of Mr E. D. Nicholls, whose Seth Sewell, the stuttering detective, does not show the faintest sign of the wear and tear of 1,000 representations. Seth's villainy is imbued with a fund of ready, inimitable humour that robs his heartless callousness of much of the abhorrence one naturally feels for an official whose duty it is to sustain the majesty of the law, and not to abuse it. This is also applicable to the character of his chief, Sergeant Frank Paul, of the Bush Police, whom Mr H. R. Leigh invests with a brutal malignity so forcible and intense that it creates a marked impression. As Dave Arkwright, the young bush farmer betrothed to Rose, Mr John Clyde plays with manly fervour, while both his physical and artistic powers are put to a severe test in the first act, where, fierce in his love and despair, he carries off the body of his foully murdered sister Marion, a part admirably portrayed by Miss Ada Lucelle. As Rose Hockaday Miss Ruth Shepherd gives a delightful portrait of the simple little colonial girl, full of artless innocence, plaintive grace, and sincerity. As the rich Australian squatter, Jacob Hockaday, Mr Courtney Robinson delineates all the bluff good humour of the warm-hearted and kind bushman that makes him a firm favourite. Mr Herbert Evelyn as the outcast, Noel-o'-the-Night, gives a conception full of passion, pathos, and deep-felt emotion. As Mrs Baddiscombe Miss Olive Parker powerfully realises the woman of impulse and morbid jealousy that is purified by the love she bears for her adopted son, Noel. Mr Willie Black as the merry and frolicsome Irishman, Andy Blunt, with the beautiful whiskers, and Miss Ada Frank as his better half, Beulah Bliss, fill the comedy parts with an endless fund of genuine humour. Other parts that are sustained carefully and well are those of Ezra Brown by Mr Stevenson, Inspector Martin by Mr W. Garrick, Sir Digby Dunstan by Mr James Hill, and the Gabriel Pilgrim of Mr Hal Lowe. The scenery and general effects are tasteful and appropriate, and leave nothing to be desired.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, June 13, the Drama, by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE CHRISTIAN."

A strong attraction is being provided here this week in Mr Hall Caine's powerful drama, *The Christian*. The *morale* of the play is a healthy one, and the situations throughout are powerful to a high degree. Mr Wentworth Croke has succeeded in organising a very capable company of artistes, and the tour should meet with success. The onus of the work falls upon the shoulders of Mr Harry Scott, who, as the Hon. John Storm, proves himself to be an actor of sterling ability. In the varying moods of love and religion, he displays an artistic depth of feeling that gains for him the enthusiastic applause of the onlookers. Miss Grace Chalmers plays the difficult part of Glory Quayle in a charming and ingenuous manner, and her conception of the character, arduous and exhausting as it is, is indeed highly praiseworthy. Mrs Callendar is well represented by Miss Clara Nicholls, and Archdeacon Wealthy receives dignified treatment at the hands of Mr Chas. E. Dering. Mr Stanley Radcliffe delineates the part of Father Lamplugh in a conscientious fashion, and deserves every commendation for a clever character study. Mr Charles B. Bedells makes Lord Robert Ure an aristocratic and polished man-about-town, and Mr Bert Conway as the faro king is well placed, whilst Mr Jackson Willcox as Horatio Drake gives a dignified and clever rendering of the part. As Mr Lorrimer, the music-hall manager, Mr Oswald Marshall is effective. A clever bit of acting is submitted by Miss Vashti Wellbourne as Polly Love, the discarded mistress of Lord Robert Ure. Mr Wilfred Blumberg is excellent as Brother Paul, and the minor characters are all intelligently treated. The general mounting of the play is excellent.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, June 13, the Drama, in Four Acts, by W. Holl and M. James, entitled
"THE CRIMSON CLUB."

A very cordial reception has been given to Mr Gus C. Livesey's company in *The Crimson Club* at this popular theatre this week. Mr Gus C. Livesey acted the rôle of Richard Fenton with telling effect, his delivery being clear and well defined; Mr Lionel Thompson as Sir Philip Garside, Bart., also spoke his lines with marked emphasis; and Mr Douglas Hutchins was responsible for a clever piece of work as the Hon. Herbert Selby. As Reginald Adolphus Garside Mr Percy Shaw played with a will, in addition to which his powers as a siffleur were of no mean order. Mr J. E. Reed as Sir Charles Lockwood, K.C., looked every inch a barrister, and handled his part in typical legal style; Mr H. C. Gilpin was excellently placed as Silas Craddock; Mr Charles Nugent was a capable Richard Steele; and Mr Arthur Wayton was duly impressive as the Judge. Miss Bertha Cousins sustained the rôle of Sophonisba Garside in a lively and energetic way, fairly revelling in her part, which also afforded her the opportunity of displaying her skill as a clever dancer. Miss Elsie Mesnard was decidedly good as Muriel Lockwood; Miss Lily Day was satisfactory as Esther Craddock; and Miss Alice N. Livesey played in spirited fashion as Julia Marsden. All the minor parts were in safe hands, and the play was adequately mounted, the whole production being thoroughly sound.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, June 13, an Original Play, in Three Acts, by the Hon. Mrs Alfred Lyttelton, entitled
"WARP AND WOOF."

On Monday Mrs Patrick Campbell, with her own company, commenced a week's engagement at this theatre, the attraction being Mrs Alfred Lyttelton's new realistic play *Warp and Woof*. A detailed account of the play appeared in these columns last week upon its first production at the Camden Theatre. The story of the struggle of the poor but beautiful "fitter" at the fashionable dressmaker's establishment has evidently obtained a strong hold upon the imagination of the public, for seldom have we seen such crowded houses at this theatre as nightly flock to see the play. Nothing could be better than Mrs Patrick Campbell's rendering of the part of Theodosia Hemming, the strongly tempted "fitter," whose struggle against adversity and whose love for her sister Phœbe are finely portrayed. The actress secures a personal triumph at every night's performance. The part of Phœbe is effectively played by Miss Vera Longden, and the scene in the workshop, where she faints from exhaustion, is most admirably acted. The various types of "smart" society ladies are cleverly differentiated by the Misses Vera Beringer, Georgie Trewman, and Ethel B. Carlton, whose anxiety to obtain dresses for a fancy dress ball at any cost is responsible for the tragic death of Phœbe. The part of Madame Stephanie, the fashionable milliner, is capitally acted by Miss Irene Moncrieff, and Miss Freda Bramleigh is equally good as a very capable Inspector of Workshops under the Factory Acts. Miss Ada Webster as the one really tender-hearted society lady and the beloved of Captain Harwood is lovable and convincing, and the gallant Captain is ably portrayed by Mr C. Aubrey Smith.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, June 13, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE NEW BARMAID."

The bright and merry piece, *The New Barmaid*, is here this week, and a most entertaining evening's amusement it is. Messrs Fred Bowyer and Sprange are responsible for the book, and Mr John Crook has supplied some very catchy melodies. There several new numbers introduced, but the old favourites are still retained, and there is undoubtedly a long run of prosperity still before it. Mr Harrison Brockbank makes a capital Captain Lovebury, and his singing is much admired. Miss Amy Augarde, a great favourite at this theatre, appears in the title-rôle, and gives an excellent account of herself. She has several numbers which she sings in a finished manner. Her well-written song "Joe,"—sung to an individual in a box made up to represent an eminent politician—is quite the feature of the evening, and gains great applause. In Mr J. B. Montague we find a comedian of great resource, and as Bertie White he is simply irresistible. Mr Jack Dale also adds to the gaiety of the play by his impersonation of William White. Dora Heather has a pert and pretty representative in Miss Maud Terry, who plays in a bright manner. Mr Sidney Vincent as Bonsor introduces some exceedingly clever dancing; Miss Jean Gilmore makes a stately Lady Moulton; and Miss Hilda Blanche does well as Brenda Louth. The Misses Violet Osmond and Vic Charlton are well placed as Braddy and Gussie, and Mr Wilfred Howard is an acceptable Colonel Claymore. The play is prettily mounted, and the dresses are tasteful. The chorus and the orchestra under Mr Michael Dwyer's conductorship leave nothing to be desired. The company is under the direction of Messrs Alexander Loftus and Jack Dale.

THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, June 13, the Comedy, by R. C. Carton, entitled
"LIBERTY HALL."

Of all the attractions provided at the suburban theatres, commend us to the special revival this week of Mr Carton's most enjoyable comedy, *Liberty Hall*. Unlike many plays, it stands the test of time well, and the King's audiences have been thoroughly interested in the homely domesticity of the story with its tinge of romance. The company organised by Messrs Lennox Pawle and Barker for the revival is well worthy of the highest credit, containing, as it does, artistes of great repute. William Todman is entrusted to the care of Mr Lennox Pawle, whose manner and make-up are entirely as the author could wish. His diffidence in asking the two highly born nieces to share his humble home in Bloomsbury ("Liberty Hall") is excellently displayed, and his good-natured efforts to bring them happiness in spite of their altered surroundings are so amusingly carried out that we may characterise Mr Pawle's impersonation as a real gem of acting. Mr Loring Fernie, too, shows much talent in the skill and ease with which he enacts Mr Owen. The Hon. Gerald Harringay is well represented by Mr Frank Hector, and Mr Charles Kent plays Mr Briginshaw with judicious effect. Mr Alfred Beaumont is a painstaking Mr Pedrick, the solicitor; while Mr Dallas Welford's efforts as Mr Hickson meet with every approval. Robert Binks, the shop boy, as rendered by Mr James Blake, causes laughter. Blanche Chilworth is happily placed in the hands of Miss Janet Alexander, who brings to bear much sincerity and feeling in her own charming style. Miss May Martyn is exceedingly good as Amy Chilworth; Miss Thomas does well as Miss Hickson; Crafer, the servant, is most humorously portrayed by Miss Naomi Neilson, her embodiment being of such a realistic nature as to remind many of the audience of their share in the great servant question.

GRAND THEATRE, FULHAM.

On Monday, June 13,
"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."

On Monday the second phase of the summer cycle of melodrama was put on the boards of the pretty Fulham theatre, in the shape of Mr Frederick Melville's *Her Forbidden Marriage*, in which he himself takes the part of the hero. This piece concerns the fortunes of men who wish to marry, men who have married, men who would like to undo the marriage knot, and women who cannot marry, and yet others whose nuptials are negatived. Love, revenge, jealousy, hatred, malice, and all uncharitableness alternate throughout the five acts. Mr Frederick Melville throws himself heart and soul into the part of the dreamy inventor, George Madison, who marries Lucy, and he strives his utmost to make the part interesting. Mr Clarence Hague paints the portrait of the villain in vivid colours, and acts consistently throughout. Miss Kate Connaught is equally thorough as the guilty, scheming adventuress, Lady Lucretia Lancaster, who, as the programme puts it, "is married and not married." Mr Newman Maurice in his original part of Timothy Tuttut is an indefatigable purveyor of low comedy, and he is genuinely funny at times, and makes the most of somewhat scant material. He is ably assisted by Miss Marie Kildare, a smart, though very impudent, housemaid, who is somewhat scared at Timothy's amorous advances, but still more startled if he threatens to discontinue them. Miss Minnie Waller is also to be seen in her original rôle of Lucy, Sir George's ward, whose nuptials give the name to the piece, and she suffers persecution and contumely throughout four acts of the drama with exemplary patience. Mr Harry J. Crane acts very creditably as old Sir George Lancaster, whose weathercock will is blown hither and thither by the breath of every scheming scoundrel in the piece, and whose lack of stamina bore fruit before the play commenced. Other small parts were satisfactorily rendered.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 13, the Sensational Drama, by James Willard, entitled
"A WOMAN OF PLEASURE."

Mr James Willard's company is greatly delighting Dalston audiences this week with excellent representations of the go-ahead play with the comprehensive title *A Woman of Pleasure*. Scenic effects count for something in this piece. There is also a touch of military enthusiasm, and these qualities, combined with earnest acting, do all that is needful to promote the longevity of the production. Mr W. S. Stevenson appears as Harold (who is in reality the Earl of Carlingforth), and he is fully entitled to the expressions of goodwill and appreciation which he receives from the audience all through the piece. He gives a specimen of good sound acting. Miss Evelyn Robson as the quietly ambitious Alice Dane in the prologue, and as the Countess of Carlingforth in the drama, helps materially to sustain the interest of the story. Mr William Vane as the Rev. Luke Goddard represents a parson of the practical and actually useful type. Mr Fred Norburn is the remaining character in the cast seen both in prologue and drama. In the former he is Jim Dench, from South Africa, a prying fellow who is a nuisance, and is "disposed of" by Harold—an incident which forms the keynote of the plot—and in the drama he is Commandant Dench, of the Boer forces. Others representing military characters are Mr Arthur Gilroy (who as Major Burrows is the villain of the piece), Mr Albert Plant, Mr R. Daws, Mr John Freeman, and Mr M. B. Allan. Mr Allan Charles as Bobby Bumpwell (from Chicago) is responsible for a good deal of fun, and in the matter of amusing the audience he is ably seconded by Miss Grace Chesterfield, who represents Mrs Josiah Bumpwell. The humorous element is further diffused by Mr Ern Carlton as Joe Ploughman, a Devonshire yeoman, and Miss Lily Langfield as Dolly Dimple, a Devonshire lass. Other characters are ably portrayed by Mr Fred Laws (who appears as Michael Isatt, a shady financier), Mr Brandt, Mr Wilton Ford, Mr Lawrence Bradlaw, Mr George True, Mr Bert Dawson, Mr F. Fairfield, Mr C. Mitchell, and Miss Dolly Gilroy.

SHAKESPEARE, CLAPHAM-JUNCTION.

On Monday, June 13, the Play, in Three Acts, by J. T. Tanner and Herbert Keith, entitled
"THE BROKEN MELODY."

This play continues its course as fresh as ever, though this is its 3,124th performance. The audiences are as large as ever, and as enthusiastic over Mr Auguste Van Biene's wonderful 'cello playing. All the accessories that go to secure that convincing ensemble that has captured the public these many years are carefully attended to; the scenery is in excellent order, and the company is carefully chosen, playing well together. To pass any comment upon Mr Auguste Van Biene would be out of place; suffice it to say that he is giving a change of music every evening, most artistic and wide in its range, in his own inimitable style. Miss Lena Burnleigh as Mabel, the wife of Borinski, proves herself a powerful actress in an arduous part where the emotional element is long sustained. Miss Rose Ralph acquits herself well in the part of the Duchess De Verviers; she is tall and graceful. Mr Arthur Bawtree as General Ivanoff, the spy, is all that can be desired. Mr T. P. Haynes is extremely humorous as Dudley Mortimer, and Mr Charles A. Morgan does his share as Dixon in adding to the fun. Mr Henry Edwards as the Hon. Richard Spinacher and Miss Morton as his wife give able support. Mr Baskerville Benson as Dr. Magrath shows understanding for character, and Mr John Cummings as Beaujour, Miss Avis Grahame as Mrs Dixon, and Miss Ida Chapman as Miss Carrat all deserve praise for their efforts.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, June 13, the Drama, in Three Acts, by Stephen Bond and B. Soane Roby, entitled
"BOY BOB."

Miss Louie Freear received a most enthusiastic reception on her first entrance on Monday night as Boy Bob in the play of the same name in which she is appearing this week at the Alexandra, Stoke Newington. Messrs Stephen Bond and B. Soane Roby, the authors of the play, have succeeded in providing Miss Freear with a part which gives full scope for the display of her wonderful powers of pathetic, as well as comic, acting, and although on Monday last she was evidently working against heavy odds, a distressing cough interfering painfully with more than one of her scenes, one could not fail to recognise and admire her cleverness and versatility. A very natural and charming performance of Edith Vincent comes from Miss Dora Rignold, and Miss Adeline Bourne is always convincing, and at times powerful, as the adventuress, Lottie Brenton. Miss Eileen Munroe plays Mrs Condraugh in her usual excellent style, and Miss Jessie Burgwitz does all that is possible as Dora Herrick. Miss Dorcas Corsble cleverly doubles the rôles of Sal and Nurse Draycott. Mr Stephen Winton gives a finished and even performance of the much-worried Captain Winton, and Mr Leyton Cancellor is an amusing and entertaining Captain Fisher. A dull, bluff, and brusque Colonel Vincent is found in Mr Slaine Mills, and some good work is done by Mr B. Soane Roby as Sergeant Daniels. A smart and soldierly sketch of Sergeant Field is contributed by Mr A. T. Hendon, and Lieut. Rex Herrick is pleasingly played by Mr Arthur Vezin. Messrs Brisco Owen, T. Jones, Edward Sheppard, and Birmingham complete the cast, and lend useful aid. The drama is preceded by *Good for Nothing*, in which the performance of Nan, by Miss Beryl Mercer, finds much favour with the audience.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, June 13, the Drama, entitled
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

Patrons of the Marlborough have this week a play of deep interest for their delectation, and the interpretation is in the hands of an excellent company, quite adequate to their work. The good dressing and capital mounting largely assist the action, and are much admired. Mr Lauderdale Maitland gives a sound performance of George Thornton. He acts with marked dramatic force, and is deserving of much praise for his painstaking impersonation. Capt. Dalville receives capable treatment from Mr Maurice Holmes, having many excellent points, and Mr Simon D. Ord achieves a success in the part of John Scarth. Mr Fred Dobell deals with the rôle of Bill Mullins, "the Gaffer," in a natural and amusing manner. Mr Dobell has admirable expression, both in voice and features, and is to be congratulated on the consistency of his performance. His confederate, Dido Bunce, and the "Cough Drop" find capable representatives in Messrs C. P. Amalia and Fred Archer. Leeson, the soldier servant, is exceedingly well played by Mr Jack Royal, his Death scene being a feature of the play. Favourable mention must also be made of Mr Harry Reynolds as Hargitt, Mr Thomas Blakeman as Dr. Lynn, Mr Henry Buckland as Wiffin, and Mr Malcolm Gatland as the Footman. As the two little vagabonds Miss Eva Norman as Dick and Miss Effie Dane as Wally both appear to enter so thoroughly into the characters as to sink their own individualities, and their performance is of equal excellence throughout. The sturdy lad Dick is admirably depicted by Miss Norman with skill, energy, and effect, and the delicate Wally gives Miss Effie Dane an opportunity for some very effective work, which she makes good use of, and without undue exaggeration. Miss Valerie Crespin as Marion Thornton has an attractive presence, excellent self-restraint and emotional power. Miss Louie Codman is entitled to warm praise for an artistic, natural, and convincing portrayal of the erring Barbara Scarth, whilst the bibulous Biddy Mullins is cleverly and amusingly rendered by Miss Marie Pritchard. Miss Viola March as Sister Randall and Miss Violet Ingram as a maid-servant portray their parts with sound judgment, and altogether Messrs Hardie and Von Leer's company present the details of the well-known story with a pathos and reality which cannot fail to command favour.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, June 13, the Drama, entitled
"A WOMAN'S REVENGE."

Years ago all London was discussing the situation, so wrought with human sympathy, in the big Trial scene at the Adelphi, in which a woman on trial for her life is successfully defended by her husband in his rôle of prisoner's counsel. The scene still retains its absorbing hold on pity, and Miss Winifred Chalmers and her company are appearing in the drama during the present week. Mr Henry L. Osmond is earnest and painstaking as the young barrister, Frank Drummond, whose love for his wife sets legal etiquette at defiance. Mr Elmore Frith gives a powerful impersonation of the rascally lawyer, Jephtha Grimwade. The moods and vagaries of the optimistic clerk, Dick Chilton, are amusingly delineated by Mr Frank Ayrton. Mr George P. Lester is good as John Overstone, while his unscrupulous son, Robert, is carefully represented by Mr David Macfarlane. Mr Fred Jullian makes a capital judge. Mr George Allmark is a smart detective. Miss Madge Seymour works very hard and successfully in the character of the petulant Lottie Bromley. An excellent impression is made by Miss Melrose Millett as the adventuress, Mabel Wentworth, and her evident sincerity strikes one as a new reading of the rôle. Miss Kitty Terriss is successful as Maggie Westwood. Little Madge prattles prettily as little Mary Drummond. In the difficult part of the persecuted heroine, Mary Lonsdale, genuine sympathy is excited by the acting of Miss Winifred Chalmers.

THE CARLTON, GREENWICH.

On Monday, June 13, the Drama, entitled
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH."

Miss Frances Delaval is paying a welcome return visit with Mr F. A. Scudamore's capital melodrama, entitled *The Biggest Scamp on Earth*. Mr Percy Carne Waram makes a great success as Derrick Knight, "the biggest scamp," and appears to revel in the villainy of the part; Mr Hamilton Urquhart is a dignified and impressive Sir Aubrey Knight; Mr Leslie York is very good indeed as Vivian Wakefield; Mr Bernard Mervyn is a clever and characteristic Napoleon Hawke; Mr L. W. Halfpenny is an amusing Rufus Liggins; and Mr Bert Goodfellow a highly diverting Joe Piper. Mr E Charlwood is a popular police-constable, Robert Sloper. Mr E. Chamberlain as Inspector Price, of Scotland Yard, and Mr Samuel Rock as Jack Morgan, a detective, are both successful. Miss Frances Delaval gives a very fine interpretation of the difficult character of Naomi Belvedere, and makes a decided hit with her powerful method of dealing with the part; Miss Beatrix Rix is a delightful Irene May, being both pleasing and pathetic; Miss Ena Russel is a bright and charming Molly Sterling; Miss Rose Vernon Paget presents a dramatic picture of Mother Hawke; and little Doris Denman plays Bobby in a pretty and natural manner. The play was received with every mark of favour by a large audience.

NEW EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, June 13, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Messrs Wm. P. Sheen and Fred S. Jennings, entitled
"WHY WOMAN SINS."

The genial and able manager of this theatre, Mr Fred S. Jennings, has much ability as a playwright, and his drama, *Why Woman Sins*, was presented on Monday to a thoroughly appreciative and crowded house. Miss Mildred Cottell in the rôle of Ida Valette possesses in a large degree that fascination and subtlety which are associated with the stage type of villainess, and her portrayal is excellent. Mr Roy Fortesque plays Lieutenant Harry Maxwell with vigour and resource, and in the most poignant phases of emotion his elocution and vivid facial play are especially evident. Captain Herbert Carlton is undertaken with conspicuous ability by Mr Fred Terriss, who invests his part with a cool callousness that wins him the sincerest flattery in a storm of execrations. Mr Geo. Harris as Cecil Spencer creates roars of laughter by his eccentricities; Mr Austin Lenton as Sam Spavins keeps the house in "fits," and Mr Chas. Herberte makes a capital Oliver Desmond. Miss Georgina Thomas's performance of Jack Smith wins her quite an ovation; and Mr Tom Grisdale as Tom Potts is to be commended. Mr Lionel Ellis makes a breezy and typical Admiral Stedfast, being ably supported by Mr Edward Beace as Captain Benbow. Mr Cecil Churton, who undertakes the dual rôle of Major Belton and Captain Algie Belton, contributes a thorough delineation of those parts. Mr D. Montgomerie as Warder Shotbolt lends good assistance. Miss Winifred Preece as Lily De Vere sings with considerable effect, and Miss Marie West as Nancy Nibble is very good. Miss Alice Warrell creditably portrays the small part of Mrs Benbow. Miss Hilda Merilese acts with great discrimination as the impulsive Nell Desmond.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 13, the Musical-Pantomical Absurdity, by W. T. M'Clennen, Music by Frank Corrie, entitled
"LAUGHTER LAND."

Musical fare is always popular at Brixton, and this week the Marvellous Craggs, in *Laughter Land*, have proved no exception to the rule. This play is an attractive and bright little comedy, and interspersed with the unique acrobatic feats of the celebrated Cragg Troupe it makes a highly amusing and entertaining show. Messrs Cragg have gathered round them a company of really clever people, principal among whom is Mr Henry B. Lewis as Professor Sylvanus Wood, from India. Mr Lewis is a comedian of unlimited resource, and his songs and grotesque mannerisms created roars of laughter. As Dick Marlow Mr Harry Rousby was extremely good, and merits our highest commendation. Sir Vincent Marlow, in the hands of Mr G. Westacott, was a most amusing personage, whilst Archie was admirably played by Mr Victor T. Raymond. As the uncle, Alderman Trentham, proprietor of Laughter Land, Mr Craigie Edwards submitted a really funny enactment. Probably the most popular rôle was that of Billy, as played by Mr Cremorne Cragg. His absurd make-up, grotesque antics, and drolleries kept the audience in continuous laughter all the time he was on the stage. Mr Cremorne Cragg achieved a conspicuous success. As Agrippa Mr Arthur Cragg was seen to advantage. The Alderman's daughter, Clarice, could not have been in more attractive hands than those of Miss Amy Hastings, whilst the very impressive rôle of Clothilda was capitally played by Miss Agatha Roze. As the Sisters Belgrave the Misses Cissie Dawes, Kitty Lingard, and Maisie Ryder sang and danced with good effect. In the second act the Marvellous Craggs gave their well-known and popular acrobatic turn, which, it seems almost unnecessary to record, highly delighted Brixtonians, who accorded these clever artistes a most vociferous encore. The chorus, under the bâton of the composer, Mr Frank Corrie, was exceptionally good, and *Laughter Land* should continue to attract good audiences for some time to come.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW-CROSS.

On Monday, June 13, the Drama, by Frederick Melville, entitled
"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."

Mr Frederick Melville's company is appearing here this week in that gentleman's highly successful drama *Between Two Women*. Originally produced with great success at the Terriss Theatre, the piece is admirably acted. Miss Marie Robson gives a delightfully sympathetic rendering of Violet Thornton; Miss Marie M'Aulay is responsible for a powerful and incisive performance of Carmen De Savereaux; Miss Mabel Carr is a bright and vivacious Polly Popp; Miss Agnes Winters and Miss Lottie James are well placed as Miss Smith and Miss Brown; Miss Winnie Morgan is a pleasing lady customer; and Miss Pattie Elliott is very good as the blind boy. Mr Henry Herne gives a fine interpretation of the part originally played by the author, and realises the character of the clergyman, the Rev. Philip Carlton, to the life. Mr Sydney Price acts well as the Earl of Millard; Mr Frank Robertson gives a capital performance as Harry Millard; Mr Fred Morgan is a powerful James Durwood; Mr J. W. Waters is a clever and picturesque Jacques Spado; Mr Jo Winter is good as Farmer Joe Wallett; Mr Henry St. Leger does well as Major Strangeways; and Mr Frederick Sandy as Dick Burgess. Mr Harry Bowen, Mr George Warne, Mr Alfred Darton, and Mr P. E. Draco are all excellent in their respective parts. Mr Tubby Edlin, a most amusing Jack Pringle, is rewarded by much laughter.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, June 13, the Drama, in Five Acts,
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

The original *Royal Divorce* company, under the management of Mr W. W. Kelly, paid a visit here this week in this romantic historical drama. As Josephine Miss Edith Cole gave a talented and impassioned rendering of the much wronged first wife of Napoleon, throwing herself heart and soul into the part, and showing a true insight into the character as conceived by the author. The affecting scene in the first act, when Josephine consents to her divorce, and the final scene, when she pleads to be taken to St. Helena with Napoleon, were especially well handled. Altogether it was a notable impersonation of a part by no means easy of interpretation. Mr Frederick Victor, too, as Napoleon had a somewhat hard task set him, for it is always a ticklish business to portray on the stage a well-known historical figure, and it may be said at once that he came off with flying colours. The traditional Napoleon, brusque in manner, abrupt in speech, forcing to his will men and women alike, was admirably reproduced, and it was a considerable tribute to Mr Victor's acting that the conqueror's downfall excited genuine sympathy, though the statement that it had been brought about by the "bull-dog British" was loudly cheered. Mr Trevor Lowe was successful as the traitor Marquis de Beaumont, and made a hit with his fervid declaration of love for Josephine. Mr Alfred Grenville made a handsome and straightforward General Augereau; Mr Claude Agnew contributed an acceptable character sketch of Talleyrand; and Mr Denis Bryan as a drunken innkeeper evoked a good deal of laughter. Miss Ethyle Murray was well suited as Marie Louise, and spoke her lines with distinction. Miss Helen Richmond was a general favourite as Stephanie De Beauharnais, and Miss Edith Jones was a clever little King of Rome.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, June 13, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled
"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

Mr Melville's company, a capable combination, taken all round, found a big house assembled at the Kingston Theatre on Monday evening to witness this stirring production, and to stamp it with its unmistakable approval. The remarkable performance of Miss East Robertson as the drink victim, Barbara Wade, invests the piece with special interest. The performance was a masterly effort. Mr Howard Russell also assisted materially in the success by the artistic manner in which he filled the part of Jack Meadows, the old farmer. His make-up and his bucolic accent were beyond reproach. Mr Wingold Lawrence made an impressive Jack Livingstone, and Mr George Unwin was good as the villain, Cuthbert Lumley. Mr John Brooks acquitted himself well as Luke Rameden. The lighter side of the play was well placed in the hands of Mr John Hitchins and Miss Jessie Danvers, who filled the rôles of Toby Turvey and Tilly Vane respectively. Miss Violet Luddington was an engaging Constance Carnell, and Miss Rosemary Rees acquitted herself well as Nellie Meadows. Mr Melville, under whose direction the play was produced, left nothing to be desired in the matter of scenery and stage effects, which were excellent.

MR BERT NICHOLSON, the popular and efficient acting-manager of the Theatre Royal, Windsor, is leaving to become acting-manager of the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, which reopens on the 27th inst. Mr Harry Ricketts, lately playing Captain Cranberry in *Fun on the Bristol*, has been appointed acting-manager of the Windsor Theatre in succession to Mr Nicholson.

HENRY IRVING AT BRISTOL.

Sir Henry Irving was invited on the 10th inst., to a luncheon at the Royal Hotel, College Green, Bristol, where the distinguished actor played last week to deeply enthusiastic audiences. About 150 ladies and gentlemen assembled in the central dining hall, which was tastefully decorated with choice flowers and foliage plants. The menu card, which was artistically designed and executed, bore upon the front page a portrait of Sir Henry in his robes as Becket. On the next page were the following lines by Mr F. E. Weatherly, written for the occasion:—

TO HENRY IRVING.

Let other hands the laurel bring
To crown thee on the stage;
Let other lips thy homage sing,
First actor of our age.
We bring a flower that will outlast
The summer and the snow,
Rosemary—for Remembrance,
That will not let thee go.

The chair was occupied by Mr Goodenough Taylor, and the vice-chair by Mr Geo. E. Davies (President of the Chamber of Commerce). The guests included Sir Henry Irving, the High Sheriff of Bristol and Mrs Greville Edwards, the Right Rev. Bishop of Clifton, George Ambrose Burton, D.D., the Master of the Society of Merchant Venturers and Mrs Allan M'Arthur, the Rev. H. J. Wilkins, M.A., Mr Laurence Irving, Mr F. E. Weatherly, Mr and Mrs J. Macready Chute, Mr Bram Stoker, Mr R. W. Ashley, J.P., Mr J. H. Howell, J.P., Councillor S. Shirley, Councillor John Boyd, Captain Nicholetts, R.N., Mr R. C. Tombs, I.S.O. (Surveyor-Postmaster), Mr and Mrs J. L. Roeckel, Mrs Villiers, Mrs Dole, Mrs Rodgers, Mr and Mrs Loveday, Mrs Cecil Loveday, Mr Gerald Lawrence, Ald. J. Fuller Eberle, Mr W. S. Paul, Mr F. Strachan, Mr F. F. Cartwright, Mr Rennie, Miss Eva Chapman, and Mr G. R. Chapman.

Lunch having been partaken of, the CHAIRMAN proposed the loyal toasts, remarking that for centuries Royalty had been patrons of the drama.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the toast of "Our Guest, Sir Henry Irving," said the task set him that day was no easy one to fulfil properly, but there was one thing which had lightened the task, and it was the thought that it was not as if he was introducing a stranger to them. They all knew Sir Henry Irving. They all admired him. Nay, more; he thought they might go further, and say they all loved him. He was as well-known throughout the English-speaking world as he was known and respected in the city of Bristol. He fancied he had come down there under many aliases. He had come down there in many characters some good, some bad, some indifferent; but no matter what character he had appeared in on the stage, he was always looked upon as a friend in that city, and as one for whom they had the highest possible esteem. It was a very difficult thing for a man like himself to speak in another man's presence, and say that which he would very much like said behind his back, but upon this particular occasion he was obliged to do this. What had struck most of them was the marvellous versatility of Sir Henry Irving's genius. Now, Macready was undoubtedly the greatest actor of his time—and from whom his friend, Mr James Macready Chute, took his name—but from what he had read and what he had been told he could scarcely imagine Macready playing parts so different as the Shylock in *The Merchant of Venice*, Becket, and Digby Grand in *The Two Roses* or Jingle in *Pickwick*, and yet it had been his privilege to see him play in all four parts. How had he attained that versatility? He started on the lowest rung of the ladder; he was not thrown upon the stage through the medium of amateur performances, or anything of that kind, but he worked his way up from the lowest to the topmost rung of the ladder until now, when he was the greatest actor of the age. He knew his power, and that the public thoroughly appreciated him. Another point was that whilst raising himself to the topmost rung of the ladder he had at the same time raised his profession. He (the chairman) would ask them to consider the difference between the theatrical profession as it is now and as it was before Sir Henry Irving made his name. Socially it had gone up by leaps and bounds, and financially it was beyond the dreams of avarice—for where an actor once got £5, he now got about £500—and that was entirely owing to his friend upon his right. But not only in his own country had he done this good to his profession, but he had absolutely revolutionised the theatrical profession in America. He had made it possible for English actors to go to the States and bring back with them, as he hoped Sir Henry had done in his day, a large number of the almighty dollars, and he had also made it practicable for American actors to come over to England and secure handsome remuneration. Having paid a tribute to Sir Henry's abilities as a manager, the Chairman went on to say their distinguished guest was the first actor ever honoured with knighthood, and he did not believe any man in any profession more honestly earned it. When he retired from the stage—and it was to be hoped that the little speech he made the other day was not intended to be a reality—but when he did retire he would carry with him into private life the best wishes of thousands upon thousands of the English-speaking nations of the world and the best wishes of his countrymen in that district amongst whom he lived in his boyhood.

Sir HENRY IRVING, who was received with prolonged applause, said:—I am deeply sensible of the compliment you have paid me by asking me to meet a company so distinguished and representative of your city. To all the kind things Mr Goodenough Taylor has said of me I don't know that my modesty permits me to subscribe. But one thing is certainly beyond dispute—I am a Somerset man, and part of Bristol, I believe, belongs to Somerset; there is certainly a bit left over for Gloucester, and that reminds me (for actors, as you may have heard, have always a mighty opinion of themselves) that I am Glo'ster too—for have I not played Richard?—and when I listen to Mr Goodenough Taylor my modesty gets the upper hand again, and I say—

Upon my life he finds, although I cannot,
Myself to be a marvellous proper man.

Well, ladies and gentlemen, although I cannot claim to have been born in Bristol, here were spent some of my youngest days. I hope I shall not bore you, but in asking a good friend of mine—a very worthy Bristolian—what subject would be most acceptable to-day: "Why, yourself," he replied, "something personal," so you must bear with me. Some vast amount of years ago the s.s. Great Britain was launched, and I remember, on the occasion, being greatly impressed by the moustache worn by Prince Albert, the Prince Consort, and, being desirous of emulating a fashion then almost singular, I expressed a desire—being five years of age—to cultivate a moustache myself. This ambition (certainly a harmless one), coming to the knowledge of a particular friend of mine—a local chemist in St. James's Barton—he said he would prepare and grow one for me if I would abide in patience. Days passed, which I restlessly endured, when, tired to death, I suppose, of my importunities, my friend at last put me upon a stool and magically effected the much-desired growth. My happiness was, of course, supreme, and proceeding to my home a few houses off, I was most indignant to find vulgar and ill-mannered persons turning round and laughing at my dignified appearance; and, bitterly complaining to my mother of their conduct, she laughed more heartily than anybody; and, soothing and appeasing me, she, with the aid of a little soap and water, gently removed the adornment, which entirely consisted of burnt cork. And can't you hear some moralist say "Sham—all sham Even as a child he loved burnt cork." But I think my first spark of ambition was really struck on that glorious morning when I saw Van Amburgh, the famous lion-tamer, drive, I think it was twenty-four horses, down Park-street, and afterwards give his thrilling performance in the lions' den. I don't say that I yearned from that moment to drive a herd of horses or to domesticate lions, but they seemed to me emblematic of the pictorial side of drama—its pomp and circumstance. And in later years I found that it needed a cool head—almost as cool as Van Amburgh's—to manage a theatre, where there are steep places—almost as steep as Park-street)—but in another way. Besides in a theatre the actor is always in a den of lions—I hope this will not be quoted as an expression of opinion against theatrical entertainments—and if he arrives at my time of life without being eaten, he may think himself luck. These beginnings of an active dramatic consciousness come back to me now with some fitness, and Mr Goodenough Taylor has touched upon my professional career with a kindness I appreciate most warmly; and this with your goodwill is more than gratifying, because it shows me I have not striven in vain to maintain a high standard of the art which has been dear to me from my youth. I have never wavered in the belief that the true drama is amongst those humanising influences you can least afford to ignore. A distinguished writer—Mr H. G. Wells—told us the other day that a State cannot be sound, that national life cannot be fully developed, where literature and art do not flourish. The State can exist without them, no doubt. They do not affect your imports and exports. Without opening a book or listening to music, or sitting at the play, or meditating in a picture gallery you can lead a blameless, prosperous, and even energetic life. But it will be a very dry and narrow and barren life cut off from some of the world's greatest treasures. It will be a life of defective growth on the imaginative side. I hold that the drama is an expression of our nature on that side which cannot be wisely neglected, and that it behoves all of you have influence for the social welfare to keep the dramatic taste of the people as high as you can. But I am not here to-day to give you a lecture. This is a memorable gathering for me—a gathering which adds another link to the chain of affectionate remembrances binding me to Bristol, your ancient and historic city; and I want to thank you very simply, but very gratefully, for this proof of a regard which I have prized most highly for many a year.

Mr GEORGE E. DAVIES proposed "The Drama," and remarked that he was quite sure in a company of that sort, gathered together to do honour to a great actor, a toast on the subject of the drama was one which would receive cordial acceptation at their hands. Sir Henry Irving had given them weighty words as to how best they should regard the drama. It was only necessary to think for a moment, in contradistinction to that, what a number of people there were who regarded the drama as some form of light amusement; but he thought those gathered there that day would be rather inclined to agree that the drama should be, and was, very much more than that, and that it could claim to be one of the highest forms of intellectual recreations. Sir Henry had pointed out how recreation might form part of the whole of a well-balanced life, and recreation exercised an important influence upon the character of the people. If they regarded the drama as a really intellectual recreation, they might maintain that not only in England to-day, but in other countries, the drama had for many generations exercised a real influence among the people. They recognised the fact that the drama was a real intellectual force, and they might well feel proud of what had been done, and was being done, for the drama in Bristol. They had only to think of what had been done by the late James Henry Chute among the members of the old stock company which gave regular performances in King-street Theatre, that place where so many actors and actresses who had since achieved fame had received their early training. The work which Mr James H. Chute so well began had been worthily continued by his son, Mr James Macready Chute, whose name he coupled with the toast.

Mr CHUTE, in response, said:—I cannot but feel deeply grateful for the high tribute that the vice-chairman has paid to the subject of this toast, and at the same time I cannot but feel embarrassed at the too flattering terms in which he has alluded to me. For three generations my family has been intimately—I trust I may add honourably—associated with the stage, and my own occupation, for over a quarter of a century, has been to strive to cater artistically, and, I hope, satisfactorily, for the dramatic tastes of the citizens of Bristol. That there are features in the drama of our age, as in that of preceding ages, which are open to criticism I do not deny; but, on the other hand, what human institution is entirely perfect? Moreover, in what department of human affairs is criticism so freely invited and so heartily welcomed as in the department of art, more especially in that most popular and most universal of all arts, the art of acting. May I remind you that the drama dates back 2,500 years? The ancient Greeks claim the first actor—Thespis—and he flourished 540 B.C. Æschylus, an acute Athenian general, was the first dramatic author and the first to build a theatre. "Things seen are mightier than things heard, and therefore a picture is mightier than a description, and a play is more powerful than a picture." Hence the growth of the drama. Æschylus was succeeded by Sophocles, some of whose tragedies survive to this day. His great play *Antignon* was reproduced in London in 1845, with Helen Faucit as the heroine, and since then in 1895. You will perhaps be interested to hear that it was played at the Theatre Royal, King-street, on Sept. 15, 1845, when my mother, then Miss Macready, appeared as Antigone. During the Roman period we first hear of clowns and fairies. They adopted the small black and white masks such as a harlequin wears in a pantomime. This was invented 146 B.C. The early Christian Church condemned dramatic art as it was then practised. The world was very corrupt, manners were loose and depraved, and the times were very evil. The stage was condemned because it was saturated with Paganism and with vice, as it always will be saturated with the spirit of the age to which it belongs. The Church, however, unable to repress the dramatic instincts of the people, adopted the alternative of making it subservient to religion. Hence sprang the miracle plays; these we find flourished in England in the reign of King Stephen. From being performed inside churches they soon came to be acted out of doors, and gradually Scriptural themes were abandoned for secular subjects. This change produced continual struggles between the clergy and the laity, which culminated in the passing of the Vagrant Act in the reign of Edward III., and acting was suppressed altogether. The poor players were subject to many years of persecution, and severe hardships and privations were endured. In the following century they came into favour again, and we find the term "strolling players" used for the first time. The earliest mention of theatres in London is in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and they were built of wood. I hardly think this would satisfy the requirements of the licensing magistrates of to-day. The greatest period of literary activity in this country was the reign of that Queen. Jonson, Marlowe, Beaumont, and Fletcher were all dramatists, and Shakespeare is admitted to be the greatest writer the world has ever seen, and he himself was a player. We are indebted, therefore, to the stage for some of the writings which, as Englishmen, we most prize. After the days of good Queen Bess the drama fell on evil times, and persecutions were revived, especially during the Puritan period. Playhouses were abolished, actors were whipped and imprisoned; even the public were fined 5s. for attending dramatic performances. The austerity of the Commonwealth was succeeded by the licentiousness of the Court of Charles II., and plays written at that time were far too coarse to be tolerated by modern tastes. But remember, dramatists cannot be better than at the times in which they live. Whatever ambitions managers of theatres may have, it is their first duty to please their patrons—"The drama's laws the drama's patrons give, and those who live to please must please to live." It is no more possible to destroy the dramatic instinct of humanity than to stop the ebb and flow of the tide. The drama has always been an institution under every phrase of civilisation and always will be. "Plays like mirrors made for men to see How bad they are, how good they ought to be." The general tendency of the drama, even in its humblest form, is on the side of good. Many of our managers have lofty ideals; they would make the stage more potent in diffusing a knowledge and a love of the good, the beautiful, and the true. Is it not, then, the function of earnest men and women who wish to make the world a brighter and a happier place to live in to join hands with them and say to them, "Go on, we will help you; we will support you in making your work of the best?" The improved condition of the stage to-day is largely due to the labours of our distinguished guest, whose wondrous talents have so often and so surely delighted and enlightened his fellow countrymen. The formal sanction was given to the new status of the actor when Queen Victoria bestowed the honour of knighthood upon Henry Irving. How different from the times when actors were treated as rogues and vagabonds! It is often urged that the drama is not what it should be. The rate at which the present generation live, the ceaseless whirl of everyday life, tempt people to take their pleasures lightly, and to support those plays that give relief to their overworked brains—this doubtless accounts for the popularity of the frivolous musical comedies. But there need be no fear as to the future of the drama while there are still intelligent audiences to enjoy the intellectual delights of noble themes such as *Becket*, *Claudian*, *The Light that Failed*, *The Cardinal*, *The Only Way*, and *Waterloo*. I cannot refrain from telling you of a little experience during this present week. Managers, you know, are beset by numerous inquiries, but imagine my surprise, not to say amusement, at being asked on which evening Sir Henry would appear as Shylock Holmes. I maintain that the drama stands higher in England to-day than it has ever done. It is recognised by the Court and by the Church. Its aims are lofty, and can be made a powerful instrument for nobler ends. The best way to discourage and suppress what you may regard as bad on the stage is to support what is good and helpful. Your co-operation will be cordially welcomed, and the spirit in which it is given fully appreciated by those whose constant effort and keenest desire is to render the drama more and more worthy of the important place it has always held in the national life.

The Right Rev. G. AMBROSE BURTON, in a clever and humorous speech, proposed "The Chairman," and remarked that they may have learnt some things from the ancient Romans, but they could now teach them that in these days it was no degradation for a man to act and to appear upon the stage.

The CHAIRMAN having returned thanks,

Mr R. C. TOMBS, I.S.O., proposed the toast of "The Ladies," and gave some interesting reminiscences of his early associations in Shakespeare's country—Stratford-on-Avon—and asked the chairman to allow him to ask a Clifton woman—Mrs Villiers—to recite them a few impromptu lines composed for the occasion by a Somersetshire woman—Mrs Pattie Varnam-Coggan—who lives within a few miles of our distinguished guest's village of birth.

Mrs VILLIERS having recited the poem, which in three scenes dealt with the rise and progress of Sir Henry, the Rev. H. J. WILKINS, M.A., responded to the toast of "The Ladies."

BERT HASLEM.

Admirers of the late Bert Haslem, who passed away on Nov. 11 last, will learn with regret that his widow (Miss Kate Leechman) has been severely ill, and is now in very straitened circumstances. Mr Haslem appeared with marked success in some half-a-dozen pantomimes. He will, however, be chiefly remembered in connection with George Edwardes's Gaiety productions, which he played in on tour in the provinces, taking in more recent years Seymour Hicks's and Geo. Grossmith's parts In the early days Mr Haslem understudied the late Fred Leslie and the late E. J. Lonnen. He once helped to save the latter's life at Brisbane, when touring Australia under the management of Musgrove and Williamson. Mr Haslem appeared at various times in America, under the management of Geo. Edwardes, and was very successful. In his career he scored many successes, but perhaps his greatest triumph was George Grossmith's part in *The Toreador*—Sir Archibald Slackitt. As Sir Archibald—played on quite original lines—Mr Haslem made a tremendous hit, and at once placed his name high on the list of light comedians His delightful drawing of the character of Sir Archie was undoubtedly the best piece of work he ever did. Unfortunately it was also his last—in this country. One cannot leave the pleasing subject of Bert Haslem's successes without mentioning *Faust Up to Date*, in which he appeared, with Miss Florence St. John as Marguerite, at the Gaiety. No one who saw his Dr Faust will ever forget the really masterful way he handled that very difficult part. Last summer, after two years of indifferent health, Mr Haslem began to break up rapidly. Mr Edwardes, however, very kindly came to his aid, and sent him with a company (Wheeler and Edwardes's) to South Africa. In Cape Town Mr Haslem played in *A Country Girl*, and created a very favourable impression as the Rajah of Bong. He only appeared in the part a few times before his health gave way entirely. That he should have played parts as widely diverse as the Rajah of Bong and Sir Archibald Slackitt and have been so highly successful speaks volumes for his versatility as an actor. Mr Haslem was one of the many well-known artists who appeared in the last performance at the old Gaiety on July 4, 1903. He is a very great loss in many ways to the profession, where he was exceedingly popular both as an actor and a man. Altogether he was associated with Mr Edwardes for seventeen years. In view of the great distress in which Mr Haslem's widow finds herself, we have inserted the above account of Mr Haslem's career with the view of interesting the benevolent in the straitened circumstances of his widow. Any contributions sent for this deserving case will be gratuitously announced in these columns, and should be addressed to Mr Walker, 46, Claverton-street, Victoria, S.W.

MADAME PATTI'S concert at the Albert Hall on Saturday afternoon was well attended. La Diva's admirable rendering of the "Jewel" song, from *Faust*, was loudly applauded, and in response to this demonstration she gave Mozart's "Voi che sapete." But her most successful offering was Lotti's "Pur Dicesti," which followed as an encore to Mozart's "Batti, batti." Madame Patti finally gave the inevitable "Home, Sweet Home," and "Comin' Thro' the Rye." The usual number of vocalists and instrumentalists were present to assist In the former category were Miss Ada Crossley, Mr William Green, and Mr Robert Radford, whose efforts were again successful. Miss Alice Liebmann played the violin with charming effect. M. Jean Gerardy contributed violoncello compositions which were applauded; Mr Mark Hambourg, at the pianoforte, did well in pieces of the showy order; while Mr Balfour presided over the organ. The pianoforte accompaniments were furnished by Mr Wilhelm Ganz and Mr Frank Mummery.

"A LESSON IN HARMONY."

A Comedietta, by Alfred Austin,
Produced at the Garrick Theatre on Thursday, June 16.

Otho Hazlewood ..... Mr ARTHUR BOURCHIER
Philip Leslie ..... Mr DAVID DOMVILLE
Servant ..... Mr F. G. KNOTT
Boy ..... Master PACE
Ida Leslie ..... Miss JESSIE BATEMAN

The good-natured friend whose benignant influence is brought to bear upon a married couple with the happy result that a little cloud on the domestic horizon quickly disappears is not an unfamiliar character on the stage. In the Poet Laureate's comedietta, produced at the Garrick Theatre on Thursday evening, Otho Hazlewood, a dramatic author, is the friend who steps in just in time to prevent a young married woman taking a course that would be likely to lead to extremely serious results. He is staying for a few days with Mr and Mrs Leslie at their pretty suburban villa. Philip Leslie is "something in the City," and is so much occupied in business matters that his wife finds him somewhat neglectful of her, and inclined to complain about trifles. As he is leaving for the City in the morning he asks her to speak to the butcher about the tough joint of mutton which they had for dinner the previous day, and he also begs her not to forget to send his white waistcoats to the wash. Hazlewood, reclining in a hammock, overhears this conversation, and draws his own conclusions. But he has more serious cause for reflection when, while engaged in watering the roses, he discovers a piece of paper on which are written some feeble verses addressed to the lady of the house. They are the work of a young aristocrat, who, to Hazlewood's knowledge, makes love to every married woman who gives him the opportunity. Carefully concealing the fact that he is himself engaged to a charming girl, whose portrait he carries about with him, Hazlewood suddenly assumes a loverlike attitude towards Mrs Leslie, and talks sentiment in the style of the hero of a penny novelette. Eventually, however, he announces his engagement, and produces the copy of verses he has found. At his suggestion Mrs Leslie writes a letter to the author, pointing out the lines are faulty in construction, and contain four false rhymes. She also invites him to call when her husband is at home. Having thus dealt with the wife, the friend of the family interviews the husband on his return from business, advising him to be less captious and more loverlike in his manner towards his wife. He suggests that Philip should talk—as, by-the-way, he himself has been doing—about "blue skies, blue seas, and blue mountains." Philip acts upon this hint, and, having just made £10,000 by a lucky stroke of business, he proposes that he and Ida shall go for a holiday trip. Thus the rather flighty young wife is rendered happy, and the Don Juan, who is an unseen character, finds he has wasted his time and his verses. The little piece is unpretentious, and the dialogue, while not marked by any special literary distinction, is natural and pleasing. In Otho Hazlewood Mr Arthur Bourchier has a part which suits him admirably, and in his hands, with his light comedy touches and command of facial expression, the cynical dramatic author becomes a very lifelike character. Hazlewood is writing a play, and his remark that "actors always write plays for authors to show their gratitude by teaching the actors how to speak the lines" greatly amused the audience. Mr David Domvile had very little to do as the husband, but did that little well. Miss Jessie Bateman was a charming and graceful representative of Ida Leslie; Master Pace made an effective entrance as a whistling messenger boy; and Mr F. G. Knott as a servant completed the cast. The new production was favourably received, and it certainly presents superior attractions to the ordinary curtain-raiser, inasmuch as the leading character is played by so clever and versatile an actor as Mr Arthur Bourchier.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The concert of Tuesday last at the Royal College was devoted to the works of the late Antonin Dvořàk, the Bohemian composer. There is always a certain difficulty in giving selections from the works of a composer, however famous. That difficulty is the monotony inevitable from hearing a repetition of the same style. But conducted by Sir Charles Stanford, and performed by the gifted students of the college, a decided success may be set down to the credit of the Royal College. Dvořàk, though not perhaps quite so celebrated as his admirers claim, was an earnest Bohemian musician, born in 1841, near Kralup, in Bohemia. He studied at Prague, and in 1873 a hymn for orchestra and chorus by him was so successful that he was awarded State assistance for several years. Next he won the friendship of Liszt, and his reputation soon spread beyond his native land. He is essentially a national composer, his chief effects being founded on Bohemian rhythms and popular melodies. The first item of the concert was the Symphony No. 5 in E flat, "From the New World," in which the composer frankly adopts Nigger melodies and other American ditties. He does so with undoubted skill, though sometimes sinking to a common-place standard hitherto regarded as beneath the range of the symphony as understood by Beethoven, Mozart, and Mendelssohn. But we must take Dvořàk as he is and judge accordingly, nor must we wonder that as a Bohemian his method was revolutionary. The symphony has much interesting matter, and we need not demand too much from the musician as to the manner. Dvořàk had a method entirely his own, and in his cantata, *The Spectre's Bride*, we get the full flavour of the Bohemian style. Miss Beatrice Dunn sang the principal melody admirably, and was recalled with the greatest enthusiasm. The orchestra hardly did so much justice to the accompaniments as to the symphony, which was given with great effect throughout. Another striking success was achieved by Miss Adelina Leon in Dvořàk's Concerto in B minor for violoncello. Miss Leon produced a full rich tone in the adagio, and in the finale was quite equal to the demands required by the executive difficulties, which are very great. Miss Adelina Leon was called to the front amidst overwhelming applause. The young lady accepted her triumph modestly, and will probably become a famous performer on the 'cello. The Patriotic Hymn for Chorus and Orchestra (dedicated to the English people), Op. 30, was a characteristic specimen of the composer's genius, and ample justice was done to the work by the students both orchestral and choral. The concluding item was the "Carneval" Overture, Op. 92, which has often been performed in London concert-rooms. By-the-way, we may mention that Messrs Novello and Co. are the proprietors of the Patriotic Hymn, and kindly gave the Royal College permission to perform it. We do not anticipate that Dvořàk will ever become a popular composer, but as an original and somewhat eccentric genius he will probably have a place in the future among celebrated musicians.

MR EDWARD TERRY celebrated on Wednesday at his theatre the fiftieth performance of *The House of Burnside*. Mr Terry's lifelike portrait of the old shipowner is an admirable piece of work. He is well supported by Mr A. E. George and Mr George Shelton in two character rôles, to which they do full justice. Miss Kate Rorke and Miss Carlotta Addison also lend valuable assistance, and the child parts are excellently portrayed by Miss Beatrice Terry and Master Roy Lorraine. After the autumn vacation, Mr Terry leaves for America, and before returning to England he will pay a visit to South Africa.

MR ARTHUR BOURCHIER has acquired all the English rights of Monsieur Tristan Bernard's comedy *Les Coteaux du Medoc*, which was one of last season's successes at the Vaudeville, Paris.

MUSIC HALL SKETCHES.

The following statement with respect to the "sketch question" has been published on behalf of the Theatrical Managers' Association:—

"Many inaccurate statements have been circulated with regard to the position taken up by theatrical managers towards music hall sketches. These statements have created a considerable misapprehension in the public mind, and the theatrical managers of the United Kingdom consider that the time has come to clearly define their position. Theatres have been for the last sixty years, and still are, regulated under the Stage Play Act, passed in 1843. The Act provides for the licensing of theatres and the censorship by the Lord Chamberlain of all performances taking place therein. Its provisions have been rigidly enforced by the authorities, and theatre licences are granted and renewed under its powers every year. Music halls are licensed under an older Act, which does not impose any censorship or restrictions upon the performances to be given; but at the same time it does not in any way sanction the performance of stage plays. In course of time there has arisen a practice of presenting at music halls, in addition to the variety entertainment consisting of songs, dances, and other performances, slight sketches, with two or three performers, and lasting about a quarter of an hour. Attempts have been made from time to time in past years by the music halls to extend such performances, but these encroachments have frequently been met by proceeding under the above Stage Play Act. During recent years, these sketches have gradually grown into plays; but so long as they did not form the principal part of the evening's entertainment, and did not constitute too serious a breach of the law, no action was taken by the managers, and it might fairly have been expected that music hall proprietors would have appreciated this spirit of tolerance. Instead of this, they have taken advantage of the licence thus given gradually to increase the length, the importance, and the dramatic interest of these sketches, until at the present time most of the music halls, and particularly those in the suburbs and provinces, take upon themselves to present commplete dramatic pieces, with unlimited characters, numerous scenes, and occupying as much time as the particular proprietor thinks desirable.

"It is claimed by theatrical managers that the theatre and the music hall are separate institutions, with separate regulations and privileges. The music halls are permitted to have smoking and drinking in the auditorium, and standing in the corridors; their performances are not subjected to censorship; they are, moreover, permitted in many instances to have what are called 'promenades,' and in other ways they enjoy those free and-easy attributes which have become associated with the music hall. The privilege of presenting stage-plays, hitherto enjoyed by the theatre, is now claimed as a right by the music halls, without their being subjected to the stringent regulations which control the theatre. This condition of things is described as 'equality' and 'free trade in amusements!' It seems scarcely in accordance with the rights of man that any class of the community should claim that, by breaking a law sufficiently often, they can make a law unto themselves.

"The Theatrical Managers' Association have endeavoured to negotiate an amicable agreement as to the limit of such sketches, and various attempts have been made to arrive at an understanding with a view to rendering further proceedings unnecessary. The theatre managers in the first instance suggested that sketches should be confined to four speaking parts and six supers, with one scene, and a time limit of twenty to twenty-five minutes. This, it is asserted, is all that is required for a sketch in a variety entertainment. These terms were declined. Subsequently the theatre managers increased their offer to six speaking parts and twelve supers, with a time limit of thirty minutes. These terms were also declined by the music hall proprietors, who, meanwhile, continued the performances of unlimited sketches. All attempt at compromise has so far been on the part of the theatre managers, who always have been, and still are, desirous of arriving at an amicable agreement. But the music hall proprietors have rejected all the proposals made to them, and insist upon being permitted to play stage plays without a licence, practically to such extent as they think proper. Once more, with a view to avoid further proceedings, a general meeting of the theatre managers was recently held, when, notwithstanding the stubborn attitude of the music hall proprietors, it was determined to offer one more compromise, and to abstain from prosecutions if the music hall proprietors would agree to limit their performances to sketches having six principal or speaking parts, sixteen chorus or supernumeraries, with a time limit of thirty minutes certain, and with no limit as to scenes. This was felt to be the utmost concession which theatre managers could make. The offer has been formally made, and, if refused, it can only mean that the music hall proprietors intend to insist upon a continuance of that law-breaking which is deprecated by theatre managers. It is hoped, however, that this suggestion will be held to be one of great liberality, and that the music halls will recognise it as such, and consent to a compromise on these terms. The theatre managers are aware that the music hall proprietors are endeavouring to obtain new legislation with a view to bringing about what is called 'free trade in amusements.' The managers of theatres are fully prepared for legislation on equitable lines. But if 'free trade' is to apply to the music halls it must apply also to theatres. For it would be manifestly unfair to give to the music halls the right possessed by the theatre while withholding from the theatre the privileges possessed by the music halls. If the music halls are permitted to perform stage plays, then these stage plays should be subject to the same censorship and restrictions as in the case of the theatre. If there is to be drinking and smoking in the auditorium of music halls, clearly the managers of theatres would have an equal right to claim such a privilege. If there is to be a 'promenade' in the music halls, the managers of theatres would have the right, if they so chose, to avail themselves of the financial advantages of such an institution. It is doubtful whether the public desire this state of things, and in any case it is probable that the theatres would prefer to retain their present status. There is an alternative scheme for new legislation. That is, that in no place of public entertainment should drinking and smoking be allowed in the auditorium, that there shall be no promenade, and that all stage plays shall be under a controlling authority."

"REMORSE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Having noticed in your issue of June 4 that Mr J. K. Reynolds is about to produce a playlet entitled *Remorse*, I beg, through the medium of your columns, to call attention to the fact that a one-act playlet bearing this title and a similar synopsis was originally produced at the Yiddish Theatre, Jassy Roumania, by a distinguished Yiddish actor and playwright, Herr Ivan Lerkoff, and created a great sensation. It was again revived in Cracow, when I had the pleasure of arranging some of the old Hebrew melodies in the score.

Yours faithfully, GUSTAV PEARLSON.
10, Percy-street, Hull. June 10.

MR TUBBY EDLIN was presented with a large solid silver sovereign-purse by the members of Melville's *Between Two Women* company. The presentation was made at the County Theatre, Kingston, last week. Mr Edlin is the general manager of the company, and will be remembered for his successes in Fredk. Melville's Christmas productions at the Standard Theatre, London.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR HENRY IRVING, at the splendid luncheon given to him at Bristol on the 10th inst., occupied the chair used by the late Prince Consort upon the occasion of the launching of the Great Britain at Bristol on July 19, 1843. For many years the chair was the property of the late Hugh Conway. In the course of his speech, which we give in full in another column, Sir Henry mentioned some interesting facts regarding his early experiences in the fine old Western city.

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT, at the Royal General Theatrical Fund dinner at the Hotel Metropole this evening will propose the health of the chairman, the Right Hon. Sir Edward Carson. The toast of "The Drama" will be replied to by Mr H. B. Irving.

MR BEERBOHM TREE, in an interview in *Cassell's Magazine*, describes some of the voluminous correspondence which he receives. He says:—"A lady connected with the Salvation Army wrote, acknowledging my annual contribution to the Self Denial Fund—'May God reward you, dear Mr Tree; the Salvation Army cannot.'" Another letter explained: "I have four girls from Switzerland home for the holidays. It would be a great treat if they could see *The Darling of the Gods*. But that would be rather expensive. Will you please send us five stalls?" One gentleman called at the stage door and left a note: "Immediate. Bearer awaits reply. Sir, unless you send me down 10s. at once I shall end my sorrows in the river." Two hours after Mr Tree went into the street. The first person he saw was the would-be suicide dancing a bornpipe outside the stage door. "I thought you were in the river,' dreamily murmured Mr Tree. "Well, sir, I went down to the Embankment, but when I saw the water my better self conquered! I have come back for the ten shillings."

MR FRED STONE, an American actor and the representative of the evidently "trying" character of the Scarecrow in *The Wizard of Oz*, weighed 165lb. two years ago. Now he tips the beam at 148lb., having lost seventeen pounds. He has played the part more than 900 times, and at one mile a performance he has danced over 900 miles. Three times in each evening he is forced to change his clothing and to submit to a "rub down" by his dresser. He goes to bed regularly at one o'clock each night, sleeps soundly until twelve the next day, does not drink or smoke, and takes care of himself as if he were in training. At the rate of three bales of straw a week he has consumed 300 tons in his make-up. He has used 500 sticks of grease paint of six inches in length each, 200 cans of powder, 100 cans of cold cream, four wigs, and 200 pairs of gloves since June 16, 1902.

MISS MABEL TERRY-LEWIS, whose marriage to Captain Batley has been the theatrical event of the week, was associated with the return of her mother, Kate Terry—the eldest of the celebrated sisters—to the stage in the production, by Mr John Hare at the Globe, of G. Stuart Ogilvie's *The Master*, on April 23, 1898. In this piece the young actress played the part of Mary Faber to her distinguished relative's Mrs Faber, the mother and daughter of real life being mother and daughter in the play. Miss Terry-Lewis, in a revival of *School* on Jan. 7, 1899, appeared as Bella, and, later on in *Ours*. *The Gay Lord Quex* was produced on April 8 in the same year; and in this much-discussed play of Pineroic mould she sustained the rôle of Muriel Eden. Her recent success as Isabel Kirke in Hubert Henry Davies's comedy *Mrs Gorringe's Necklace* will be well within the recollection of our readers.

MR DANIEL FROHMAN, who has been in London for the past few weeks on his annual visit on behalf of his New York interests, is leaving for the Continent on Tuesday, and will return to America in the middle of next month. Since his last visit to this country the building of his new American theatre, the Lyceum, has been completed. It is to be a house of comedy, and Mr Frohman proposes to open his season there in September with a new play, entitled *The Serio-Comic Governess*, written specially for him by Mr Israel Zangwill. Miss Cissie Loftus will play the title-part.

AT his other house, Daly's Theatre, New York, Mr Frohman will commence the season with Messrs Charles Frohman and George Edwardes's production of *The School Girl*, to be followed by *The Cingalee*. Mr Frohman feels very much gratified that he has been able to finally close a contract with the young violinist, Vecsey, for a tour in the United States, beginning in January next. The terms he is paying for this engagement are much in excess of those given to any other instrumentalist, and in order to secure Vecsey for next year Mr Frohman had to compete with several big Continental offers.

MR FROHMAN says that America had suffered a good deal during the past twelve months from the same dearth of good plays that seemed to be characteristic of the London season. Added to that, there had been a great general depression in New York and in other parts of the States owing to the reactionary effect of huge speculation, as well as to the depression brought about by the Chicago fire. With the approaching Presidential election he anticipated that matters would again assume their normal state.

A SLIGHT but uncomfortable hitch occurred during one of the latest performances of *The Cingalee* at Daly's Theatre. After singing the first two lines of "There isn't much else to say," one of the "plums" of the second act, Mr Rutland Barrington's memory completely failed him, and he came to a dead stop. Mr Barrington looked towards the prompt side, but in vain; he then turned to the chorus, but could get no help from that quarter. The band struck up the opening bars once more, and Mr Barrington began his song for the second time. But at the end of the second line his memory again became a blank, and there was another painful pause. With justifiable irritation Mr Barrington called to the prompter, "The word, the word," which was at last forthcoming, and for the third time he began his song and proceeded without further hitch. Unfortunately for the audience, Mr Barrington was apparently too ruffled to sing more than two verses.

MR H. B. IRVING, who was the honorary adjudicator at the fifty-sixth annual elocutionary competition at the City of London College, on Thursday, congratulated the college upon the efficiency displayed, all the pieces, he said, having been spoken well and clearly. What he had been chiefly guided by in awarding the prizes was simplicity and naturalness in expression, because what was most to be avoided was anything at all stagey, however much feeling the pupils might throw into their work. The one thing that was not wanted on the stage was anything stagey or theatrical. He awarded the college prize to Mr P. G. Twyman, and of the two special prizes given by Mr W. Aldridge he awarded the first to Miss Elsie Dennis and the second to Miss Ruth Starr.

MRS PATRICK CAMPBELL, by arrangement with Messrs Gatti and Frohman, will put on *Warp and Woof* at the Vaudeville Theatre on the 27th inst., with nearly the same cast as that of the recent production of the Hon. Mrs Alfred Lyttleton's play at the Camden.

PIERRE LOTI AND MONS DE VEDEL have had their version of *King Lear* accepted by M. Antoine for production in Paris, and M. De Vedel has also had an original play accepted by the same management. Both authors are Naval men.

PAUL GALDOS' play *Electra* is having as much success at the Porte-St.-Martin Theatre, Paris, as it had in Spain. As the result of its depending largely on political and party spirit for its interest, the police are called in nightly to quell disturbances, and M Lepine has informed the management that, in order to avoid riots, he proposes sending down an extra body of police, for which little attention the management will have to pay. The stalls and boxes are for the Church, the pit and gallery against it. The other night the party cry of "A bas les Chartreux!" rang throughout the house, and at a big reception given by a member of the Rothschild family a celebrated divette, finding herself in the embarrassing position of being without her usual accompanist, a courteous member of the illustrious house offered to find someone in the company assembled who could play her accompaniments. He did so. A charming gentleman stepped forward. The dainty little divette accepted his assistance, and, in the course of her répertoire, sang a topical song full of mordant Parisian wit against "the Chartreux." What was her distress and dismay to discover too late that her courteus accompanist, a marquis of ancient lineage, was himself a Chartreux monk, who had been turned out by the present Government. The affair was all the more painful as the divette is a devout daughter of the Church.

MR CHARLES ALLAN is one of the old Carthusians who are giving a matinée at the Haymarket Theatre, on the 20th inst., on behalf of the Charterhouse Mission in Southwark. It was in his school days that he first appeared on any stage, playing the principal part in *Ici on Parle Français*, when he received his first press notice. This year is his twentieth as a professional actor. Mr Allan, having made his début at a series of matinées given by the Vokes Family at the Imperial Theatre, afterwards joined the German Reeds, and one of his first important engagements was with Mr Charles Hawtrey at the Globe. He served under Mr Tree's banner from his first night at the Haymarket to the end of the run of *Julius Cæsar*, and his last engagement was to play the pompous Bishop, in *The Rich Mrs Repton*, at the Duke of York's. Mr Allan has many interesting mementos of his long connection with the stage. One of the most valued is a heavy silver cigar-case presented to him by Queen Victoria, after he played before her in *The Red Lamp* at Balmoral. Another is one of the best portraits ever taken of Sir Henry Irving, inscribed with a few cordial words of greeting. A third is a "Christmas card" from Mr Tree—a cigarette-case engraved with a facsimile of the popular actor-manager's handwriting, wishing his "dear Allan" a merry Christmas and a happy new year. Yet another of his treasures is a handsome silver table, presented to him on his marriage by the company at His Majesty's Theatre.

MR A. TARRIDE, whose successes with Madame Réjane last year are still fresh in the minds of all lovers of the French stage, comes to London this season as leading man in M. Félix Riche's company, opening at the Avenue Theatre this evening. A student at the Conservatoire of Paris, he made his début at the Vaudeville Theatre in 1889, and since then has had one of the most brilliant theatrical careers of our day. He has triumphed both in tragedy and comedy. His performance in *Le Controleur des Wagons-Lits* and as Le Général Petit Point in *La Dame de Chez Maxime* will ever be remembered by Parisian playgoers. Equally remarkable was his rendering of more serious parts in recent great successes, such as *La Passerelle (The Marriage of Kitty)*, in which he played the part made familiar to us by Mr Gilbert Hare; *Antoinette Sabrier*, *La Bourse ou la Vie*, &c. In these pieces he will appear in London in his original rôles.

SIR HENRY IRVING, writing to Mr John Hart, of the Bradford Theatre Royal, with reference to the new regulation passed by the local licensing committee requiring theatres and music halls to close at eleven o'clock, says, "It does not seem in any way necessary, as the refreshment bars close at eleven. After all, the theatre has a lesson of its own to teach which should not be lightly ignored by the governing power." Mr J. Forbes-Robertson has written asking, "Is the audience to be deprived of the last part of the play? You might have some disagreeable demonstrations on the part of the public. They would have a perfect right to protest. It often happens that my performance of *Hamlet* is not over till well past eleven o'clock. If the curtain were suddenly rung down is it likely I should sit quietly under such an indignity?"

AT Southsea the other day two little girls, Maude and Gladys Sturgess, fell into the water near the coastguard house. The tide was receding at the time, and the children were being rapidly carried away, when their plight was observed by Mr Harry Momber, a member of the company then appearing at the local Prince's Theatre. Mr Momber, who is unable to swim, plunged into the water. He soon found himself out of his depth, but succeeded in reaching the children. He then struggled to a post, to which he clung, with his burdens, until the arrival of some coastguardmen, who rescued the exhausted trio.

MRS MINNIE MADDERN FISKE, a cultivated American actress, is thoroughly disgusted with the town of Ann Arbor, with the University of Michigan, and with the audience that greeted her in *Hedda Gabler*. She went so far as to order the curtain to be rung down in the middle of the first act because some students in the gallery were eating peanuts, and she made her manager announce that if peanut-eating during the performance was not stopped, the play would cease altogether. Mrs Fiske says the Michigan professors are to blame for the fact that musical plays will draw full houses in Ann Arbor, while Ibsen's dramas attract "an audience that, in itself, is the greatest humiliation she has received in her whole career."

MISS LAURA JOYCE BELL, who died recently in New York, made her début at the Strand Theatre, and appeared at Niblo's Garden, New York, in 1872. She was one of Mr James C. Duff's best singers, during his management of the Manhattan Theatre, and for years she was with Mr John A. M'Caull. She was the original Little Buttercup in *Pinafore*, and was in Mr E. E. Rice's production of *Evangeline*. In 1882 Miss Joyce married Mr Digby Bell, the well-known comedian, and for years they appeared together in operatic productions.

MR G. ALEXANDER MARSH, the rising young tragedian of the Osmond Tearle Répertoire company, will lead to the Hymeneal altar, on the 29th inst., Miss Carrie Baillie, the talented and charming leading lady of the company. The wedding ceremony will take place in Glasgow, where the bride's parents reside, and, after a few weeks' holiday, the happy pair will resume their professional duties at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, where Mr Herbert J. Montague starts his autumn tour. Miss Baillie and Mr Marsh have our best wishes for their future happiness.

MR BEERBOHM TREE has consented to assist in the "Living Bridge" fête at Hengler's Circus on the 27th inst. Princess Christian and the Duchess of Albany have given their immediate patronage to the fête, which is in aid of the St. Helena Hospital Home.

AFTER the last performance of *The Duchess of Dantzic* at the Lyric Theatre on Saturday ten minutes after the play was over pit and gallery continued to cheer. The iron curtain had been lowered, and the night fireman, lantern in hand, was going his rounds, when the fireproof curtain was raised, and Mr Holbrook Blinn, looking a little surprised, bowed his acknowledgments.

MR ARTHUR ROBERTS was sued at Westminster County Court on Saturday by Messrs King and Foster, of Leeds, for £28 2s. 6d., the price of 250 eighteen-sheet posters, depicting Mr Roberts at the head of the crew of H.M.S. Irresponsible, which were ordered through Mr M'Kim, business-manager for the tour, who has since died. Mr Roberts said it was the custom of printers to print posters "on spec.," and for the business-manager to buy them as he wanted them. The judge said that the onus of proof was on the plaintiffs, and they failed to establish any order. He therefore gave judgment for Mr Roberts.

MR FORBES-ROBERTSON AND MISS GERTRUDE ELLIOTT are unable for the present to appear in the Stage Society's production of Mr Bernard Shaw's *Cæsar and Cleopatra*. The committee of the society has, therefore, decided to abandon the idea of performing the play in this season. The next production of the society will be *Where There is Nothing*, by Mr W. B. Yeats, of which there will be two matinées at the Court Theatre on the 27th and 28th inst.

AT the Clement Scott Matinée at His Majesty's Theatre on Thursday the cast of *Flower o' the Rose*, Mr William J. Locke's romantic play, will include Mr George Alexander, Mr Harcourt Williams, Mr Herbert Dansey, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, and Miss Margaret Busse. Besides Mr Arthur Bourchier the characters in *The Conversion of Nat Sturge* will be sustained by Mr Webb Darleigh, Mr Walter Pearce, and Miss Nancy Price. Miss Marie Tempest will sing "The Garden of Sleep;" Miss Julia Neilson will give Oberon's speech and "I know a Bank," from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; Miss Ada Reeve will supply two new songs, "Winnie What's-'er-Name" and "Just Her Way;" and Mr Weedon Grossmith has specially written for himself a monologue entitled *Redwood Grange*. Mr Tree has altered the name of Mr Michael Morton's "impressionist picture" from *Diogenes* to *The Rag-Picker*.

MR ALEXANDER HUMPHREYS, formerly musical director to the Ben Greet *Belle of New York* company, now holds the same position at the Duchess, Balham. Mr Humphreys, who is a diplomé of the Royal Leipzig Conservatoire, made a considerable hit with the music he wrote in connection with George Brydon Phillips's pantomime *Red Riding Hood* last year.

MISS ROSALIND IVAN, who has been engaged to play one of the parts in *Merely Mary Ann*, and to understudy Miss Robson in the title part, has just finished a year with Miss Nethersole. She was engaged for a similar period by Sir Henry Irving, and, in her early days, gave pianoforte recitals. Her most exciting experience was when she played Zaza at, literally, a quarter of an hour's notice. She was touring with Mrs Lewis Waller, and arrived at the theatre in Birmingham one evening to find that her actress-manageress had been taken ill, and that she—Miss Ivan—was expected to take up the leading part in the play without a single rehearsal. Another of Miss Ivan's ordeals was when she recited before Mr George Grossmith, and he gave her an introduction to Mr Alexander, who then engaged her for his touring répertoire company. As a child Miss Ivan studied music with Mr John Francis Barnett.

MR PHILIP LESLIE is to play his favourite part of Vyvian in a short tour of *The Happy Life* that Mr Herbert Waring is undertaking in July. Mr Leslie has proved a most popular Harry Bronson—a part he is again taking up in the next tour of *The Belle of New York*, from the day when he first appeared as that peculiar hero at the Shaftesbury, after Mr Harry Davenport's departure and before Mr William Carlton's arrival. Mr Leslie was born in New Zealand, was educated in England, and studied music under Mr Louis N. Parker.

MR PERCY FRENCH, who gave one of his delightfully irresponsible entertainments at Steinway Hall on Thursday afternoon, tells a capital story against himself. In his early days in Ireland he was the editor, poet, artist, story writer, and jester of a comic journal. A rival paper endeavoured to crush him with this criticism, "Some of his jokes we have seen before. Some of them we haven't seen yet."

MR J. BANNISTER HOWARD, to whom the Theatre Royal, Ryde, was sold last Monday, is having the house redecorated, and is making a few structural alterations. The Theatre Royal will open for the season on Monday, July 25.

MR GEORGE CHILD, for so long with Mr Barry Williams's successful plays, has been engaged to play thirds to Mr De Quincey in his forthcoming tour.—Mr W. V. Garrod has been engaged by Messrs G. M. Polini and Austin Melford to play the Spider, in their autumn tour of *The Silver King*.

HON. MR JUSTICE BUCKNILL last week, upon the application of Mr J. D. Langton, solicitor, acting on behalf of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Mr William Gillette, and Mr Charles Frohman, the proprietors of the play entitled *Sherlock Holmes*, granted a perpetual injunction restraining Mr Alfred Denville, of the Theatre Royal, The Sands, Durham, from performing or advertising a play under the title of *Sherlock Holmes*.

MR FRANK HOLLINS, who has been away from England for nearly three years, has concluded a six months' engagement in America, under Mr F. Belasco's management, supporting Miss Florence Roberts as Mercutio, Lord Bertie Heathcote, in *The Frisky Mrs Johnson*, &c., which has been successful in America both on the road and in New York. He expects to be home next month to make arrangements for a spring tour.

MADAME MELBA, on account of Ascot attracting the regular patrons of the opera, declined to sing in Saint-Saëns' new opera *Hélène*, which was to have been produced at Covent-garden this week. The performance, therefore, has on this account been postponed to Saturday next.

THE Bensonian Old Boys' annual dinner was held at the Criterion Restaurant on Sunday, with Mr G. R. Weir, who has been in the Benson company twenty-one years, in the chair. About 150 Bensonians, including actors from most of the London theatres and several who had come long distances, were present. The health of Mr Benson was proposed by Mr Alfred Brydone, and Mr Benson replied. Mr Fred Terry responded for the guests.

THE annual race for Doggett's Coat and Badge, rowed from London-bridge to Chelsea, will take place on July 27. The Fishmongers' Company request those who are entitled to and who intend to row to give in their names at the Watermen's Hall not later than Thursday, July 14. Should it be necessary to have trial heats they will be rowed on July 25.

A NEW Baconian book, by Mr Frank Burgoyne, to be dedicated to the Duke of Northumberland and Sir E. Durning-Lawrence, the member for Truro, is shortly to be published. It is a republication in a greatly amplified form of facsimiles of the three-century-old manuscript discovered nearly forty years ago by Spedding at Alnwick. This is the manuscript which contains a list of Bacon's works and two Shakespearian plays, *Richard II.* and *Richard III.* On the front page are scribbled the names of Bacon and Shakespeare in a number of forms.

MR HERBERT SLEATH, the owner of the racehorse Happy Slave, has changed his colours to gold, silver facings, red sleeves, black cap. Mr Lewis Waller has registered his colours as follows:—Lilac, green sleeves, white cap.

MR CHARLES MANNERS, in response to many requests, will give an extra matinée of *Faust* at Drury-lane Theatre, on Wednesday. *The Flying Dutchman* will be performed on Tuesday evening and on Saturday afternoon, Mr William Ludwig taking part in both performances.

MR AUSTIN MELFORD has organised two companies to play *The Silver King* this autumn. His partner, Mr G. M. Polini, has booked two excellent tours, and will personally direct the North company. Mr Melford, having concluded his engagement as Nat Rudder, the star part in *The Never-Never Land*, will once more play Wilfred Denver in all the principal suburban theatres, commencing at the Camden on Aug. 1, and finishing at the Shakespeare in December. Mr Melford's son, nineteen years of age, has been engaged by Mr Wilson Barrett as assistant stage-manager.

SIR HENRY IRVING is now taking a well-earned holiday, and a member of his company, Mr Harry B. Stanford, and Miss Laura Burt have secured the rights of a farcical comedy bearing the title *Why William Lied* and a new romantic costume play, in one act, by Edmund Day, called *The Cardinal's Edict*. The majority of Mr Stanford and Miss Burt's company appearing in these pieces will be recruited from Sir Henry Irving's present supporters. Mr Thomas Courtice will business-manage the tour.

AMONGST those who have promised to take part in the entertainment in connection with the Grand Priory of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England, which will take place at His Majesty's Theatre on the evening of July 5, are Mr Beerbohm Tree and the company of His Majesty's Theatre, who will appear in an act of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and Mesdames Albani, Suzanne Adams, Calvé, Sarah Bernhardt, Réjane, and Signor Ancona.

MISS ADA DAVIES, who achieved such a remarkable success at Drury-lane with that brilliant and difficult polacca "Je suis Titania," from A. Thomas's *Mignon*, commenced her singing career at the Opera Comique, Paris, studying with M. Bouley. After singing there for a year she had to give up in consequence of a severe illness, which prevented her working for a long time. After that her next venture was with E. C. Hedmondt in *Rip Van Winkle* at Her Majesty's Theatre. At the end of that season she joined Mrs D'Oyly Carte's *Rose of Persia* company. She has studied in England with Mr Franco Leoni, Mrs Hayden Coffin, and Mr Hugo Heinz, and is now singing brilliantly with the Moody-Manners opera company.

MR WILLIAM TRANT, who will play John Mildmay, in a revival of *Still Waters Run Deep*, at the Crystal Palace on Monday, has accepted an invitation to recite Tennyson's "Maud" at the Royal Female School of Art on Tuesday afternoon, July 12.

MDLLE. MARTHE REGNIER, who is appearing in Félix Riche's French company at the Avenue Theatre, is a great favourite in the theatrical world of Paris. She is a pleasant-looking, English-like Parisienne. She created Petit Ami, Gertrude, Chaperon Rouge, France D'Abord, and has been for three years at the Comédie-Française.

MR MURRAY CARSON, while playing Gaston de Marsac, in *A Gentleman of France*, before the expiration of the piece on Saturday at the Avenue Theatre, found time to meet with an accident. At the conclusion of the fight on the staircase episode Mr Carson fell on the stairs and injured his wrist. He continued to play the part, but his arm soon swelled, necessitating the use of a sling.

MISS EMMA HUTCHISON AND MR PERCY HUTCHISON have secured the entire provincial and suburban theatre rights of Mr George Rollit's successful farce *The Money-Makers*, the tour of which will start at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle, on August Bank Holiday. This is the seventh company that will be sent into the provinces in the autumn under this management.

THE Mermaid Society's pastoral performances, under the direction of Mr Philip Carr, will this year be given for six evenings, beginning on Thursday next, in the garden of Thorpe Lodge, Airlie-gardens, Campden hill, by permission of Captain Montagu Norman. The programme will consist of Milton's mask of *Comus*, with the original seventeenth century music, by Henry Lawes; and of Ben Jonson's mask, *The Hue and Cry After Cupid*.

MISS FLORENCE IMESON, who made a great success as Gretchen, in the pantomime, *Mother Goose*, at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, is engaged by Mr William Greet for his first No. 1 tour of *The Earl and the Girl*, to play Daisy Fallowfield. Although Miss Imeson has had only five years' experience she has played Fifi, in Mr George Musgrove's No. 1 Shaftesbury company of *The Belle of New York*, for over two years. She comes of an old Yorkshire family who from "time immemorial" have been lessees of the Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

WE regret to announce the death of Miss Maggie Crossland. She was the wife of Victor Gouriet, principal comedian in Mr George Edwardes's musical company in South Africa, and was herself a clever dancer. She was the boy in the pierrot and pierrette trio in *A Gaiety Girl*, and went round the world with that piece. Her last engagement was with the South African company in July, 1903, but she had to return home seriously ill. She never recovered, and died peacefully on the 8th.

MR LESLIE HUGHES, the acting-manager of the Camden Theatre, has made himself extremely popular among the frequenters of that beautiful house, which draws a large portion of its audience from among the dwellers in Hampstead. We are therefore not surprised to hear that a few of Mr Hughes' friends intend to present him with a tangible mark of their esteem. The little ceremony will come off this evening in the saloon of the theatre just previous to the rising of the curtain on the performance of *The New Barmaid*.

THE Grand Duke Constantine Constantinovitch, cousin of the Tsar, has presented to the trustees of Shakespeare's Birthplace, through Mr Sidney Lee, the chairman, two handsomely bound volumes, containing a translation into Russian by his Imperial Highness of the play of *Hamlet*.

A PERFORMANCE of the Orestean Trilogy of Æschylus was given on Tuesday at Harrow by Mr F. R. Benson and his dramatic company. The famous School Speech Room was crowded, the audience including the headmaster, the teaching staff, the boys, and many of the principal residents.

AT the conclusion of the concert at Buckingham Palace on the 9th inst., when Madame Melba had the honour of singing before the King and Queen, His Majesty conferred upon her the decoration of Science, Art, and Music. Madame Melba is the first woman who has received the distinction.

IT is stated that plans are in course of preparation for a theatre in Bow-street, on a site opposite the Floral Hall. The Duke of Bedford has provided in the lease for a box to be retained for his sole and exclusive use, a clause which is in the agreements relating to Covent-garden and Drury-lane Theatres.

MISS DAISY HALLING'S mystic drama, *The Fire Witch*, will be produced at the Theatre Royal, Edmonton, on Monday. The cast will include Mr W. V. Garrod, David Barone; Mr Will Hook, Mr Charles Pitt; Mr Charles Halling, and Misses Daisy Carlton, Gertrude Entwistle, and Daisy Halling.

MADAME RÉJANE, Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr Tree, the Earl of Kilmorey, Sir Gilbert Parker, and M. André Messager have accepted invitations issued by the president and members of the Foreign Press Association to dinner at the Café Monico on Sunday night, to meet Dr. Camille Saint-Saëns, whose opera *Hélène* is to be produced at Covent-garden on the following evening.

MADAME LIZA LEHMANN, the fair composer of *Sergeant Brue*, the musical farce which was produced at the Strand Theatre on Tuesday, has hitherto been known as a writer of songs. She has also done some incidental music for the stage, notably that for *The Twin Sisters* at the Duke of York's Theatre. She finished the score of *Sergeant Brue* in three months.

MR W. S. HARTFORD, who has been fulfilling engagements here extending over fifteen months with Mr Leonard Rayne, in South Africa, has returned home on the s.s. Ghoorkha after a most pleasant passage.

MISS IDA MOLESWORTH and MR MARK BLOW, having concluded a forty-four weeks' tour of *Under Two Flags* at the Borough Theatre, Stratford, are spending their vacation at their charming Herne Bay cottage. Their thoroughbred horse Beauty, of *Under Two Flags* fame, enjoys his daily sea bathe on the beach in the presence of an admiring crowd. Both *Under Two Flags* and *A Sailor's Sweetheart* will go on the road again on August Bank Holiday, the former play being well booked into its fourth year of tour.

DR. W. H. CUMMINGS, the Principal of the Guildhall School of Music, in the course of his after-dinner speech at the banquet held on Saturday night at the Crystal Palace in connection with the jubilee celebrations, mentioned that he had taken part as a choir-boy under Sir Michael Costa in the opening ceremonial performed by Queen Victoria on June 10, 1854. Mr Cummings added that his neighbour at table—Sir Frederick Bridge—had also sung in the same choir.

MISS F. N. HARRIS, the daughter of the late Sir Augustus Harris, who has just finished an engagement with Mr Beerbohm Tree, will join Mr Norman V. Norman's company on his autumn tour. Besides *Under the Red Robe*, Mr Norman has arranged with Mr Lewis Waller to play *A Royal Rival*, which had such a successful run at the Duke of York's.

MR F. H. DE QUINCEY and MISS SIME SERUYA, with a company under the management of Harold Reyner, will go on a tour in the autumn with a high-class répertoire of romantic plays, including the entire production of Louis N. Parker's *The Twin Sister*, transferred from the Duke of York's Theatre. *Days of Cromwell*, *Richelieu*, *The Corsican Brothers*, and *Garrick* are also in the repertory. Elaborate scenery has been painted by Mr Walter Hann for the tour, in the course of which that fine Italian tragedy *Lucretia Borgia* will be elaborately revived. The advance-manager is Mr A. Hamilton-Warden.

MISS LOUISA PEACH, who is with Mr Frank Harding's company playing Joan in *Home, Sweet Home*, had an enthusiastic welcome at the Standard last week. Although it is a year and a half since she was in the stock company at the Britannia, Hoxtonians have not forgotten her, and on the Saturday Miss Peach was the recipient of several floral tributes, consisting of a large horseshoe, basket, and three shower bouquets.

AT Brighton last week took place the English production of the successful farcical comedy from America entitled *A Stranger in a Strange Land*. The piece was received with enthusiastic approbation, and its success was endorsed by increasing receipts nightly. Mr C. W. Somerset is negotiating for a London representation of the comedy in the autumn.

MISS LOLA DUNCAN, who plays Lady Orreyed in *The Second Mrs Tanqueray* and Janet Preece in *The Prodigal*, with Miss Lucy Wilson and Mr Gordon Bailey's company on tour, was born "within a mile o' Edinburgh toon," where her earlier years were spent. After much invaluable experience in the amateur ranks, Miss Duncan made her professional début at the Criterion Theatre in *The Noble Lord*, an engagement for which she is indebted to the author, Captain Marshall. Then came a lengthened tour as leading lady with Mrs Bandmann Palmer, playing Ophelia, Mabel Vane, &c. This was followed by a summer tour of *The Awakening* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*, under the management of Miss May Pardoe. Miss Duncan's two last engagements have been with Mr and Mrs Kendal in *The Elder Miss Blossom*, *The Scrap of Paper*, and *Dick Hope*, in the last-named of which her creation of the part of the self-sacrificing sister of the scapegrace hero secured for her valuable encomiums from the London critics. Miss Duncan, who rejoins the Kendals in the autumn, is an excellent linguist, and has written several stories for children which have achieved much popularity.

MR THEODORE KREMER, author of *The Fatal Wedding* and *An Actor's Romance*, is in London for his annual trip. This gentleman has many successful dramas running in America, and has just arranged with Mr Bert Coote to take over the entire English and colonial rights of his new drama entitled *Wedded and Parted*. Mr Coote will be busy all this autumn with his tours of *The Fatal Wedding*, and also with the preparation for his Christmas children's play, *The Children of the King*, and hopes to produce *Wedded and Parted* early next year.

MRS SAM LEWIS, who is to be married on July 20 to Lieutenant Montague Hill, of the Scots Guards, inherited a large fortune from her late husband, and founded a scholarship at the Royal Academy of Music. A musician herself and a keen connoisseur, she rarely misses a night at the opera, and she attends many musical festivals in the provinces. Mrs Lewis is the sister of Madame Messager, the wife of the French composer.

M. MICHAEL MORTON'S English version of *La Montansier* will be produced by Miss Lena Ashwell in the provinces in the autumn. Miss Ashwell has engaged Mr Charles Groves to play the part originally created by M. Coquelin, and the incidental music is being composed by M. Louis Keyzer.

MISS MINNIE WATERSFORD, who has been playing Kate so successfully in Mr A. B. Cross's *Manxman* company, on Saturday completed her 300th representation of the character. The occasion was marked by a supper after the performance, at which good wishes and congratulations were offered her from artists and managers.—Mr J. C. Bannister has been engaged by Miss Violet Sims to stage-manage and produce, and also to compose and arrange the music, for her new drama *Branded as Cain*.—Mr Felix Pitt has been engaged for the autumn by Mr Walter Melville for stock season at the Standard and Terriss Theatres.

MR ALFRED LESTER will commence his stock season on the 27th inst. at the Theatre Royal, Cardiff. Amongst other attractions will be an elaborate revival of *Arrah-na-Pogue* and Max Goldberg's *Nell Gwynne*. The company engaged includes Misses Kate E. Leslie, Lalla Stanhope, Gertrude Goddard, Belle Power, May Finning; Messrs Fred Emery, W. C. Bland, Ernest K. Nelson, George Arthur, C. Herman Pullen, T. Bigging, and Alfred Lester.

"SERGEANT BRUE."

A Musical Farce, by Owen Hall,
Music by Madame Liza Lehmann,
Lyrics by J. Hickory Wood,
Produced at the Strand Theatre, on Tuesday, June 14.

Sergeant Brue	Mr WILLIE EDOUIN
Michael Brue	Mr FARREN SOUTAR
Aurora Brue	Miss OLIVE MORRELL
Daisy	Miss HILDA TREVELYAN
Mabel Widgett	Miss ZENA DARE
Vivienne Russell	Miss NELLIE SEYMOUR
Louise Clair	Miss KITTY ASHMEAD
Sir Fergus Treherne	Mr FREDERICK LEWIS
Gerald Treherne	Mr SYDNEY BARRACLOUGH
Matthew Habishom	Mr EDWARD KIPLING
Inspector Gorringe	Mr ARTHUR LACEBY
Erskine Murray	Mr JACK THOMPSON
Captain Bay	Mr S. BROOKE
Mr Crank	Mr GILBERT PORTEOUS
Crookie Scrubbs	Mr ARTHUR WILLIAMS
Lady Bickenhall	Miss ETHEL IRVING

Mr Owen Hall's "book" of *Sergeant Brue* is distinctly different from his early musical play librettoes. According to the prescription usually made up by him for Daly's and other theatres, the piece was divided into two acts. In the second of these the plot disappeared; a fancy ball was introduced; and there was a sort of variety entertainment. *Sergeant Brue* is more akin to the works of the ingenious Mr James Tanner, produced at the Gaiety and elsewhere. There are three acts; and the interest is sustained up to the final fall of the curtain. The Sergeant of Police who is the centre figure of the story is an easy-going, amiable individual, who has no ambition and no desire to arrest criminals. He has bought for his son Michael a hairdresser's business, and his daughter Aurora is a hospital nurse. Lady Bickenhall, an impecunious "fashionable," who makes a living by originating and "running" various "Leagues," has found employment at Michael's establishment for a number of young ladies; and Sergeant Brue has fallen hopelessly in love with her ladyship while on duty outside Rabbitts's bootshop. A young lady named Mabel Widgett is engaged to be married to Gerald Treherne, son of Sir Gerald Treherne, of the Home Office. He, however, has fallen in love with Aurora while she has been nursing him after an injury to his arm; and, while travelling in the "Twopenny Tube," Mabel has made the acquaintance of Michael Brue, who has a manner and style superior to those of the average barber. Such is the situation when Matthew Habishom, a solicitor, brings to Sergeant Brue and his family news of a strange will left by a relative of the Sergeant's, a rich South African colonist. By this curious testament, it is ordered that a fortune of £10 000 a year shall be inherited by Brue, senior, on his becoming an inspector of police. Pending this promotion the solicitor asks the Sergeant to draw upon him for any amount.

It now becomes the object of the Brue family to get the head of it promoted. A thief named Crookie Scrubbs, who is detected robbing the till of the hairdressing establishment, suggests a plan by which this may be brought about. Some of Crookie's "pals" are to get up a sham burglary; and Sergeant's discovery of it is to assure him an inspectorship. In the second act the Brues are offering lavish hospitality in the endeavour to get on in society, under the direction of Lady Bickenhall. The Sergeant is introduced as a millionaire from the Colonies; and his blunders create much amusement, especially when he breaks down in the attempt to dance the "Lancers." Crookie arranges with two of his "pals" that they shall, for a big reward, commit a burglary in the room of Lady Bickenhall at the Green Park Hotel. A party of police is summoned; and Brue secrets himself in the lady's chamber, getting under the bed. Crookie's friends change their minds and decamp; and the police discover Brue, and arrest him as a burglar.

In the third act he is put in the dock at Crawlborough-street Police-court, the magistrate of which is a certain socially-ambitious Mr Crank. Lady Bickenhall goes into the witness-box; and, to save the Sergeant, suggests that he was in her room with an amorous object. He chivalrously refuses to accept this excuse; but, her ladyship sticking to her statement, Brue is acquitted, though severely reprimanded. His hopes of promotion seem distant; but her ladyship invents a scheme which is carried out at a "zoological party" at her house. She starts a game at "banker," and induces Mr Crank to join her in holding the bank. Just as the play is at its height, a sham police raid is made by Brue and others, and the magistrate is threatened with arrest. Lady Bickenhall suggests that Brue shall be bought off by a promise of promotion; and, on this understanding, Mr Crank is not summoned for breaking the law. Lady Bickenhall accepts the Sergeant as a husband, Gerald pairing off with Aurora and Michael with Mabel Widgett.

Mr J. Hickory Wood and Madame Liza Lehmann have worked well together in providing the words and music of the "numbers" with which the piece is embellished; and the result is a bright, lively, and agreeable entertainment, full of "go" and spirit; exhilarating in its joyous gaiety and humour, and very prettily dressed and mounted. Mr Willie Edouin as Sergeant Brue carries the greater weight of responsibility, and acts the part quite in comedy style, his droll characterisation of the genial Sergeant being irresistibly diverting. Mr Farren Soutar, always alert, "modern," and vivacious, plays Michael Brue with unflagging alacrity, and brings down the house with a funny burlesque love-ditty about the "Twopenny Tube." He is valuably assisted by Miss Zena Dare, who, as Mabel Widgett, combines refinement of style with dainty archness and quiet drollery. Miss Olive Morrell looks perfectly bewitching in the becoming costume of a nurse; her expressive acting is quite delightful, and her rendering of a coon ditty in the last act raises the audience to a high pitch of demonstrative delight. Miss Hilda Trevelyan plays the servant Daisy in quaint low comedy manner, her imitation of Cockney smartness being extremely clever. She puts an abundance of energy into her delivery of her song in the second act; and is brisk and bright throughout. Mr Frederick Lewis, neatly made-up, is entirely effective as Sir Fergus Treherne, and Mr Sydney Barraclough, whose serenade in the second act is nicely rendered, gives a lively impersonation of Gerald Treherne. Mr Edward Kipling devotes much care and ability to the performance of the little part of Matthew Habishom, and Mr Arthur Laceby is satisfactory as Inspector Gorringe, Mr Jack Thompson and Mr S. Brooke supplying able embodiments of Erskine Murray and Captain Bay. Mr Gilbert Porteous is duly serious and authoritative as the Crawlborough-street magistrate; and Mr Arthur Williams is inimitably dry and droll as Crookie Scrubbs. His realistic appearance as the pallid, stolid criminal is something to admire and marvel at. Every line of Scrubbs's "tells," delivered as it is by Mr Williams with immovable oddity. Miss Ethel Irving scores a complete triumph as Lady Bickenhall, enacting the rôle with all the aristocratic smartness necessary, and making a marked impression by her expressive and artistic treatment of the songs allotted to her, out of which she squeezes every ounce of point and meaning. *Sergeant Brue*, at the Strand Theatre on Tuesday, "went with a laugh" from beginning to end. There was not a "draggy" five minutes in the whole performance; and the only difficulty will be to settle where the piece can be cut so as to take the required quarter of an hour out of it. Encores were often asked for, and were, with excellent judgment, denied by the management, much to the advantage of the production.

AT the Theatre Royal, Bristol, on Saturday, was produced for copyright purposes, a play, in three acts, by Walter Reynolds, entitled *Flatland*.

"THE FINISHING SCHOOL."

A Romance, in Four Acts, by Max Pemberton,
Produced at Wyndham's Theatre on Thursday, June 16.

Sir John Vane	Mr J. H. BARNES
Murray Vane	Mr BEN WEBSTER
David Pugh	Mr FRANK COOPER
Gilbert Rodd	Mr GEO. E. BELLAMY
Maurice Vernon	Mr SIDNEY BLOW
Reuben Laing	Mr J. H. BREWER
Captain Hardy	Mr HUGH ARDALE
Lieut. Greenwood	Mr CHAS. FRANCIS
Lieut. Debray	Mr NORMAN THARP
Colliers	Mr ATHELING FARRAR
Simon Bradbury	Mr LEWIS FIELDER
A Sailor	Mr GEO. TROLLOPE
A Soldier	Mr MONTAGUE ELPHINSTONE
Jack Hodgetts	Mr SYDNEY HAMILTON
William Brooks	Mr RICHMOND WEBB
Lady Rose	Miss ETHEL MATTHEWS
Jeanette Laing	Mrs E. H. BROOKE
Lucy	Miss DOROTHY CHESTER
Lady Phœbe	Miss IDA RICHARDSON
Fanny	Miss MARY HAMILTON
Prudence	Miss ETHEL BURNAND
Stella	Miss ADELAIDE MACDONALD
Penelope	Miss ALYS READ
Fenella	Miss GLADYS GARDINER
Angela	Miss ELEANOR MAY
Patience	Miss GERTRUDE HENRIQUES
Hetty	Miss RHODA GORDON
Marjory	Miss GLADYS GUY
Sarah	Miss EVELYN COTTER
Miss Charlotte Sanders	Miss INA GOLDSMITH
Miss Mary Sanders	Miss MARGARET MURRAY
Dorothy Melville	Miss ANNIE HUGHES

The Finishing School is what Falstaff would have styled a "slight, pretty drollery." As an entertainment of the stage it is decidedly agreeable. The plot is not strong, but it is well, though simply, made; and, smoothly and brightly acted, Mr Max Pemberton's "romance," when once we have got into the stream of its story, is continuously, though gently, amusing. There is little to add to these statements but a description of the piece.

Dorothy Melville, the ward of old Sir John Vane, belongs to the ever-popular class of affectionate and impulsive maidens who, for stage purposes, put on "the breeches.' The first act opens at Gretna Green, where we find Dorothy's hopeless lover, David Pugh, arranging for her hasty marriage to Sir John's son Murray. The bride and bridegroom arrive in a hurry, and the ceremony is nearly concluded when Dorothy's guardian, who has ridden post-haste from Yorkshire to stop it, intervenes, and threatens to cut his son off with a shilling. It is eventually arranged that Dorothy and Murray shall be completely separated for a year, during which time they promise not to communicate in any way. At the conclusion of that period, Sir John says, he will "give his decision." At Dorothy's request Murray consents to her being placed in a "finishing school," where we find her in the second act, one of a class of young ladies who are being instructed in "deportment." Dorothy, whose year is almost "up," rebels against the artificiality of the lesson, and is sentenced to have no supper and to write out a long imposition. Alone in the schoolroom, she learns from Pugh, who visits her, that her lover, who is a soldier, is in barracks in the same town, and that he and his regiment are to start for the wars next morning. Determined to see him once before he goes to meet possible death, Dorothy dresses up in the clothes of a young Frenchman, and goes to the ball at the barracks. Here she is introduced to Sir John, who, after a few glasses of old port, is loud in praise of enterprising lovers, and hearty in ridicule of hard-hearted parents and guardians who would "part two loving hearts." Dorothy drops a buckle which had been given her by Murray; it is found and recognised, and Sir John is convinced that his ward is in the barracks. She escapes, jumps on a horse, and rides back to the school, where she promptly resumes her female attire. Being cross-questioned by Sir John, who arrives to investigate, she admits her offence, but pleads his own advice to her in the character of the Frenchman. Thus Sir John is amused and mollified, and gives his consent to Dorothy's marriage with Murray.

An admirable interpretation of the character of Sir John Vane was given by Mr J. H. Barnes, who played the part in a mellow, humorous, and full-blooded way that was quite effective. Mr Ben Webster as Murray Vane was, as he always is, high-toned, chivalrous, refined, and manly; and Mr Frank Cooper sustained the unthankful rôle of David Pugh with admirable ease and firmness of touch. Mr George E. Bellamy gave a very neat and crisp embodiment of Gilbert Rodd, and Mr Sidney Blow was quite commendable as Maurice Vernon, Mr J. H. Brewer elaborating carefully the peculiarities of Reuben Laing. Miss Ethel Matthews as Lady Rose had little to do but to look extremely pretty and picturesque, and easily performed the task. The austere schoolmistresses were enacted in impressively comic style by Miss Ina Goldsmith and Miss Margaret Murray; and Miss Annie Hughes as Dorothy Melville emphasised the sweet simplicity and demure humour which have been so successful in other impersonations of hers. She was bright and piquant in the "breeches" scene, and amusingly artless in the more girlish and childish passages of the part. The minor rôles all had conscientious representatives, and the piece was well rehearsed and prettily dressed and mounted. Mr Ernest Bucalossi's incidental music added greatly to the effect of some of the situations. *The Finishing School* had a cordial reception.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

J. M. Glover, musical conductor, &c.—June 18.
Arthur Nelstone—Saturday, June 18.
Fred H. Grahame—Saturday, June 18.
Dot Russell—Saturday, June 18.
Fred Marlow—Saturday, June 18.
H. Cecil Beryl—Saturday, June 18.
Lucy Wilson, actress—Saturday, June 18.
May Whitty, actress—Sunday, June 19.
George Alexander, actor—Sunday, June 19.
Jack H. Smith—Sunday, June 19.
Sybil Arundale, actress—Monday, June 20.
Henry Neville, actor—Monday, June 20.
Charles Glenny, actor—Monday, June 20.
Fred Storey, actor—Monday, June 20.
James E. Page—Monday, June 20.
George Le Brunn, musical composer—June 20.
Lionel West, actor—Monday, June 20.
William Bailey, theatre proprietor—June 20.
Leah Marlborough, actress—Monday, June 20.
Bernard Stavordale—Tuesday, June 21.
Harry Hiller, actor—Tuesday, June 21.
George Belmont, music hall manager—June 21.
Cora Duncan, actress—Wednesday, June 22.
Rose Asher—Wednesday, June 22.
Alice Leamar, comedienne—Wednesday, June 22.
Arthur Bourchier, actor—Wednesday, June 22.
H. Rider Haggard, novelist, &c.—June 22.
Paul Martinetti, pantomimist—June 22
Percy Honri, concertina soloist—June 22.
J. Wilfred Chilton—Thursday, June 23
Tom Mowbray, actor—Thursday, June 23

A LARGE audience assembled by invitation on the afternoon of the 9th inst., at the Garrick Theatre, to witness the performance of Madame Magdeleine in a "Séance d'interpretations musicales dans l'hypnose," assisted by M. Magnin, a professor of the School of Magnetism in Paris. The interpretations took the form of gesture, dancing, and pantomime, while music was played or songs sung by Mr Bizet, Mr Sutton Goddard, Mr Hollman, and others.

MR B. A. MEYER, who represented Mr Frohman during the run of *Little Mary* at Wyndham's Theatre, has been appointed business-manager for Mr Félix Riche's season of French plays at the Avenue Theatre.

WEDDING OF
MISS MABEL TERRY LEWIS AND CAPTAIN R. C. BATLEY.

On Tuesday afternoon, at St. Mary Abbot's Church, Kensington, the marriage was solemnised of Miss Mabel Terry Lewis, daughter of Mrs Arthur Lewis (Miss Kate Terry), and niece of Miss Ellen Terry and Mr Fred Terry, to Captain Ralph Cecil Batley, of the Dorsetshire Queen's Own Regiment, of Seaborough Court, Crewkerne, Somerset. Nearly every pew in the church was taken up by prominent theatrical and society folk, and considerable interest in the ceremony was evinced in the neighbourhood. The bride, who was given away by her uncle, Mr Fred Terry, wore a white satin Empire dress, veiled with chiffon and spangled net. The train was of satin armour and trimmed. Her veil was of tulle and covered a wreath of myrtle in her hair, while she wore a diamond cross, the gift of the bridegroom, and a diamond chain, the gift of Miss Batley. Her bouquet, consisting of orchids, lilies, and white heather, was tied with the colours of the Dorsetshire Yeomanry. The bridesmaids were Miss Lewis, Miss L. Terry Lewis (sisters of the bride), Miss Godwin, Miss Waggett (niece of the bridegroom), Miss Olive Morris, Miss Beatrice Terry and Miss Phyllis Terry, the two latter being cousins of the bride. The bridesmaids wore cream muslin dresses, with long Empire cloaks, muslin collars and cuffs, and plain blue straw hats, trimmed with black tulle, and carried bouquets of yellow roses. The little train-bearers (Miss Kesteven and Miss Nora Kesteven) were dressed in white muslin with white hats. The Hon. R. V. Grosvenor acted as best man, and the nave of the church, which was beautifully decorated with costly flowers and plants, was lined on either side by officers and men belonging to the bridegroom's squadron. The Rev. R. W. H. Farrer, rector of Bridport, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Canon Pennefather. As the bridal party entered the church the hymn, "The voice that breathed o'er Eden," was given.

A reception was subsequently held at Bolney House, Ennismore-gardens, kindly lent by Mrs Henry Tate. No less than 750 ladies and gentlemen accepted invitations, and some 600 presents were received, one of which came from the members of the bridegroom's corps. Among those invited to the wedding were the following:—Sir Henry Irving, Miss Ellen Terry, Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr and Mrs Kendal, Mr and Mrs W. S. Gilbert, Miss Marion Terry, Mr and Mrs Anthony Hope, Mr and Mrs Arthur Bourchier, Mr and Mrs Herbert Bedford (Madame Liza Lehmann), Mrs Du Maurier, Mr and Mrs Hamilton Earle (Miss Louise Dale), Mr and Mrs Luke Fildes, Mr and Mrs A. W. Pinero, Mr Cyril Maude, Miss Gertrude Kingston, Mr and Mrs Bram Stoker, Mr and Mrs Fred Kerr, Mr and Mrs Cosmo Gordon-Lennox (Miss Marie Tempest), Miss Emily Moore, Miss Braddon, Mr and Mrs W. Q. Orchardson, Mr and Mrs Ouless, Mr and Mrs Humphrey Ward, Mr and Mrs Ben Webster, Miss Agnes Zimmermann, Miss Beryll Ausdell, Sir Francis and Lady Burnand, the Hon. John and Mrs Collier, Viscount and Viscountess Wolseley, Captain and Lady Muriel Digby, Mr Frank Dicksee, the Ladies Egerton, Sir Philip Grey Egerton, Mr and Mrs Lionel Green, Miss Nora Keith, Mr Alfred Beit, Sir Benjamin Baker, Lord Burnham, Mr Frederick Harrison, Sir William Power, Sir Henry and Lady Peto, Mr G. F Quilter, Sir Thomas and Lady Sutherland, Sir James and Lady Knowles, Colonel Cuthbert Larking, and Lady Lockwood.

Later on the happy couple proceeded to Norway and Sweden, where they will spend their honeymoon.

Below we give a list of a few of the presents:—Bride to bridegroom, miniature of herself, painted by herself, old Sheffield plate dish covers and a set of mother o' pearl and diamond waistcoat buttons; bridegroom to bride, diamond cross, emerald and diamond ring, white ostrich feather fan on tortoiseshell sticks, and monogram in diamonds; Mr and Mrs R. Braithwaite, pair large trumpet vases; Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, salad spoon and fork; Mr and Mrs Herbert Bedford (Liza Lehmann), silver travelling clock; Mr and Mrs George Bancroft, walnut bookcase; Mr and Mrs George Boughton, framed study; Sir Francis and Lady Burnand, "Punch" blotter; Mr Reginald Barratt, picture; Sir Philip Burne-Jones, silver belt; the Hon. Mr and Mrs John Collier, old mirror; Mr, Mrs, and the Misses Courtney, pewter and glass fruit dish; the Misses Casella, hand-painted liqueur set; Mr Henry Hubert Davies, pair silver flower vases; Mrs Du Maurier, framed drawing by G. Du Maurier and Louis XVI. vinaigrette; Mr Frank Dicksee, proof engraving; Mr and Mrs Hamilton Earle (Louise Dale), pair silver vases; Mr and Mrs Luke Fildes, proof engraving; Miss Helen Ferrars, silver string box; Miss May Fortescue, hand mirror; Miss Lettice Fairfax, blue china basket; Mr, Mrs, and Miss F. Goodall, sketch by Fredk. Goodall; Mr Anstey Guthrie, lustre vase; Mr and Mrs W. S. Gilbert, silver bag; Miss Gaythorne, "Society Pictures," by Du Maurier; Mr and Mrs George Grossmith, silver-mounted inkstand; Miss Norah Hargrove (Norah Keith), pair of enamelled hat pins; Mr and Mrs Anthony Hope Hawkins, crystal jug; Miss Mollie Hare, old Roman lamp; Miss Lily Hanbury, old silver basin and spoon; Mr and Mrs Colin Hunter, etching; Mr Frederick Harrison, old embroidered cape; Mr and Mrs Alfred Hobday, sofa cushion; Mr and Mrs John Hare, silver-gilt box; Sir Henry Irving, china breakfast service; Mr and Mrs H. B. Irving, old paste buckle; Mr and Mrs Kendal, "Gloria" bust; Mr and Mrs Fred Kerr, Herrick's Poems; Sir James and Lady Knowles, "Happy England," illustrated, by Mrs Allingham; Mrs Arthur Lewis (to the bride), emerald and diamond head ornament; Mrs Arthur Lewis (to the bridegroom), ebony and silver tankard; Miss Lewis (to the bride), fur-lined travelling coat, trimmed sables; Miss Lewis (to the bridegroom), old Dutch brazier; Miss L. Terry Lewis, old Sheffield chafing dish and leather bookcovers; Mr Rudolph Lehmann, water-colour sketch; Mr and Mrs Gerald Lawrence, old engraved glass; Mr and Mrs Cosmo Gordon Lennox (Marie Tempest), china and ormolu (old French) lamp; Mr and Mrs W. Llewellyn, case of reference books; Mrs Maxwell (Miss Braddon), gold and turquoise curb bracelet; Mr and Mrs Cyril Maude, Japanese coffee cups; Mr and Mrs Felix Moscheles, carved ivory fan; Mr and Mrs Fuller Maitland, enamelled buttons; Mr Dawson Millward, hunting crop; Mr and Mrs Herman Merivale, bread knife and platter; Mr Somerset Maugham, bridge box; Mr and Mrs Gerald du Maurier, fan; Mr Philip Norman, water colour; Mr and Mrs W. Q. Orchardson, proof engraving; Mr and Mrs Ouless, volume of English verse; Mr and Mrs Clement Parsons, water colour; Mr and Mrs A. W. Pinero, agate spoons; Mr and Mrs Eric Parker, tortoiseshell card-case; Miss May Pardoe, pair of brass candlesticks; Mr Nigel Playfair, old lustre goblet; Mr and Mrs Barry Pain, silver-gilt grape dish and scissors; Mr and Mrs Perugini, silver scent bottle; Mr Alfred Parsons, water colour; Miss Del Riego, book of songs; Miss Gordon Scott, china inkstand; Sir Douglas Straight, tortoiseshell and lace fan; Mr and Mrs Bram Stoker, old punch ladle; Mr and Mrs Linley Sambourne, drawing; Mr and Mrs George Terry, pair old silver spoons, 1762; Miss Marion Terry, enamelled wing brooch; Miss Ellen Terry, travelling cushion and rug; Mr and Mrs Fred Terry, cheque; Mr and Mrs Charles Terry, cheque; Mrs Quintin Twiss and Mr Arthur Twiss, Salviati glass; Mrs and Miss Tom Taylor, silver pin tray; Mr and Mrs Beerbohm Tree, jewelled pendant; the Misses Mathilde and Adela Verne, flower glasses; Mr and Mrs Humphrey Ward, engraving; Mr and Mrs Ben Webster, pair engraved decanters; Miss Agnes Zimmermann, Dutch box.

'THE LIARS."

Comedy, in Four Acts, by Henry Arthur Jones,
Revived at the New Theatre on Thursday, June 16.

Colonel Sir Christopher Deering	CHARLES WYNDHAM
Edward Falkner	Mr DENNIS EADIE
Gilbert Nepean	Mr EILLE NORWOOD
George Nepean	Mr BERTRAM STEER
Freddie Tatton	Mr SAM SOTHERN
Archibald Coke	Mr A. BISHOP
Waiter	Mr PAUL BERTON
Gadsby	Mr H. DUBERLY
Footman	Mr T. W. RAWSON
Taplin	Mr C. EDMONDS
Lady Rosamund Tatton	Miss ENID S. BRUNTON
Dolly Coke	Miss SARAH BROOKE
Beatrice Ebernoe	Miss CYNTHIA BROOKE
Lady Jessica Nepean	Miss MARY MOORE
Mrs Crespin	Miss LILIAS WALDEGRAVE
Ferris	Miss SYBIL WILLIAMS

Sir Charles Wyndham has done well to revive Mr Henry Arthur Jones's comedy, which was originally produced at the Criterion Theatre on Oct. 7, 1897. One of the brightest of modern plays, it contains some of the clever author's best work as a dramatic craftsman; and many theatre-goers will be glad of the opportunity of renewing their acquaintance with this brilliant comedy, while others may congratulate themselves on being able to witness it for the first time. The humour of the character drawing is on a par with the cleverness of the dialogue. Indeed, *The Liars* can be strongly recommended as a delightful production, in which the keenest interest is maintained from the rise to the final fall of the curtain. And how completely the character of Sir Christopher Deering suits Sir Charles Wyndham. It is a part in which the eminent actor is able to turn to account all the resources of his art, and on Thursday evening his performance, in a character which so admirably fits him, was keenly enjoyed by the crowded audience who had gathered to welcome a notable revival. In the last act Sir Charles quite rose to the occasion, and his embodiment of the officer and gentleman who prevents what would be a foolish and disastrous action on the part of a man and a woman was instinct with all those vital qualities which distinguished his performance on the first production of the play. Happily Mr Alfred Bishop is again available for the part of Archibald Coke, and his assistance in this character is of the utmost value. Miss Mary Moore also repeats her altogether excellent impersonation of Lady Jessica Nepean, whose single act of indiscretion causes all the trouble. It is a remarkably clever and natural rendering of the character of the indiscreet lady. Mr Dennis very ably expresses the intensity of feeling which possesses Edward Falkner in his foolish infatuation for a married woman. Mr Eille Norwood also does extremely well as the justly suspicious husband, Gilbert Nepean, and Mr Bertram Steer is intensely in earnest as George Nepean. Mr Sam Sothern gives some delightful touches of comedy to the part of Freddie Tatton. Miss Enid Spencer Brunton is pleasing as Lady Rosamund Tatton, and Miss Sarah Brooke plays brightly and naturally as Dolly Coke. The widow, Mrs Ebernoe, has an admirable exponent in Miss Cynthia Brooke, and praiseworthy work is done by Miss Lilian Waldegrave as Mrs Crespin and Miss Sybil Williams as Ferris. Mr Paul Berton is capital as the waiter at the Star and Garter, and the several menservants are well embodied by Messrs H. Duberly, T. W. Rawson, and C. Edmonds. The revival was enthusiastically received, the curtain being raised after every act.

MISS LUCY WILSON, who, in conjunction with her husband, Mr Gordon Bailey, inaugurates the dramatic season at the Opera House, Weston-super-Mare, next week with her *Second Mrs Tanqueray* and *Profligate* company, has a marvellous eye for colour and effect, designing every dress she wears upon the stage herself. In the first act of *The Second Mrs Tanqueray*, Paula introduces herself in an evening gown of pale blue crêpe de chine over white satin, of early Victorian shape, and draped with écru lace, the whole being finished off with a striking sash, the groundwork white, for a trail of flowers, shot blue and pink to rest on. There are flowing sleeves of blue chiffon. Over this is worn an evening cloak, made entirely of twine-coloured lace lined with cream chiffon. The sleeves of this creation fall wide away from the wrists, and are filled in with pleatings of chiffon and Limerick lace.

IN the second act, Miss Wilson wears a three-quarter length riding coat of white cloth, with full, frilled sleeves. The buttons of polished gold which ornament this were presented to Miss Wilson on her recent tour in Western Australia by a party of miners, and each button has her monogram engraved upon it. The skirt is of white serge, and kilted to the waist, and the delicate white muslin blouse above it is lighted up here and there with knots of dainty pink roses and blue forget-me-nots. The sleeves are daringly original, each having a cape from the shoulder to the elbow, and being laced across with narrow black velvet. The most striking dress Miss Wilson wears is shown in the third act. It is an exquisite confection of peach-coloured silk, entirely covered with sequins of peachy-brown shade, which in the gaslight of the theatre glitter like millions of diamonds. Many of the sprangles are pear-shaped, and these form a distinct pattern running in V's across the skirt and bodice. Soft peach chiffon is gathered from neck to waist, which is encircled by a soft dreamy sash of chiffon, upon which an exquisite buckle nestles.

As Leslie Brudenell, in *The Profligate*, Miss Wilson strikes precisely the right note, the girlish simplicity of the frocks being in complete accordance with the age and character of Mr Pinero's sweet little heroine. Nothing could be simpler or more effective than this pretty little white muslin wedding dress over its foundation of glacé silk, with the fichu of real lace over the sloping shoulders. The bonnet, with its white silk trimmings, its white strings, and its little band of small white roses, is delightful; and the whole costume is in keeping, down to the dainty shoes and stockings. In the fourth act Miss Wilson wears a pale blue muslin with an original trimming worked by hand in the Greek pattern. A curious "sea-weedy" effect is given by different shades of blue running through the material, the whole being set off by a folded sash of black chiffon fixed with an ancient buckle.

THE will of Mr Julian Russell Sturgis, of Hans-road, Chelsea, barrister, and author of *John-a-Dreams* and *An Accomplished Gentleman*, has been proved at £79,435.

AT the Liverpool Police-court, on Wednesday, the hearing was concluded of the summonses against William W. Kelly, theatrical lessee and manager; Isabelle Morris, his secretary; and Charles Pell, scenic artist, charged with having committed perjury. The prosecutor, Benjamin Bernstein, accountant, of Bradford, had purchased the fit-up rights of *A Royal Divorce* play from Kelly, who, he contended, had represented to him, in the presence of Morris and Pell, that the average weekly takings of the previous holder of the rights amounted to £120. In this statement, and another as to the absence or presence of Pell during the initial stages of the interview at which the representation was alleged to have been made, the alleged perjury consisted. Two actions were brought at Liverpool Assizes by Bernstein, who sought to recover from Kelly damages for alleged false representation. In the first trial the special jury disagreed; in the second, out of which the present proceedings arose, Bernstein obtained a verdict and £400 damages. On Wednesday the magistrate decided that no jury would be likely to convict, and he therefore declined to commit the defendants for trial. He considered that all three of them left the Court without stains on their characters.

"VENICE PRESERVED."

A Tragedy, in Five Acts, by Thomas Otway,
Revived at the Royalty Theatre, at a Matinée on Monday, June, 13.

Duke of Venice	Mr A. H. ROWE
Priuli	Mr J. A. ROSIER
Antonio	Mr L. FORBES-ROBERTSON
Jaffier	Mr BERTRAM FORSYTH
Pierre	Mr TOOSE
Renault	Mr CAVENDISH MORTON
Bedamer	Mr DAVIDSON
Belvidera	Miss YVONNE ORCHARDSON
Aquilina	Miss PHŒBE MILLEDGE
Attendant on Belvidera	Miss VALERIE WARWICK
Attendant on Aquilina	Miss DOROTHY CHESTER

The life of Thomas Otway has been described as "one of the most pitiful and melancholy chapters of English literary biography." He was already leading a dissipated life when his first play, *Alcibiades* was produced in 1675. The principal female character Druxilla was played by the beautiful Mrs Barry, "she of the majestic mien and full, clear voice, who did the tragedy queens in a truly august manner, and played Elizabeth, the last of the Tudors, so well that many an Englishman could not disassociate the idea of the real virgin princess from the impressive personality of the actress." Otway's second play was the better known tragedy of *Don Carlos*, produced in 1676, under the immediate patronage of Lord Rochester, who fell madly in love with the fascinating Mrs Barry, and undertook her stage tuition. The brilliant reputation she ultimately won certainly justified his confidence in her natural qualifications. But after a while the profligate nobleman not only withdrew his patronage from Otway, but actually ridiculed him in a disgusting lampoon. *Venice Preserved; or, a Plot Discovered* was produced in 1682. Mr A. W. Ward in his "English Dramatic Literature," points out that "the subject proper of the play was, as in the case of *Don Carlos*, furnished by the Abbé St. Rial, who in 1674 seems to have published the first literary account that had reached the world at large of the strange conspiracy which in 1618 had, by the policy of the signiory, under circumstances purposely left in darkness, menaced the safety if not the very existence of the Venetian Republic. One of the speeches in the play, that of the conspirator Renault, who directs the procedure of the outbreak, seems to be translated verbatim from the French historical writer. The general interest of the plot is considerable, and there can be no doubt but that it is enhanced by the scene in which the action takes place." The same writer further remarks "that the three principal personages in *Venice Preserved* are drawn with great, though, perhaps, not equal, skill and vigour. The settled determination of Pierre contrasts effectively with the weakness of Jaffier, who, after joining in the conspiracy, is persuaded by Belvidera to save the State by revealing his knowledge of the design. He afterwards seeks to atone for this betrayal by sacrificing himself for his friend; and at last stabs both himself and Pierre in Roman fashion, thus deluding the scaffold of its double prey." The comparatively few people who have read or witnessed the tragedy will probably agree with Mr Ward that its most striking and characteristic beauty consists in "the exquisitely natural tenderness of the love scenes between Jaffier and Belvidera, and in the consummate art of the great scene in which she saves her father and the State." Samuel Phelps revived *Venice Preserved* at Sadler's Wells on Aug. 4, 1845, when he appeared as Jaffier, Henry Marston played Pierre, and Mrs Warner, Belvidera.

There was a meagre audience present at the Royalty Theatre on Monday afternoon, and the members of the Otway Society, however laudable their intentions, cannot be congratulated on their performance of the ancient tragedy. Speaking generally, it was disappointing and ineffective. Mr Bertram Forsyth, however, displayed considerable ability and unmistakable earnestness in his embodiment of Jaffier, while Miss Yvonne Orchardson's Belvidera had its good points. Charming and graceful in manner, she delivered her lines with feeling, and was seen at her best in the passionate love passages with Jaffier. Mr Cavendish Morton was a vigorous and resolute Renault, but his make-up was unsatisfactory. Mr Leonard Forbes Robertson did fairly well as Antonio, and a certain degree of success attended the efforts of Mr A. H. Rowe as the Duke of Venice and Mr J. A. Rosier as Priuli. Mr Toosé is not physically qualified for such a part as that of Pierre. Miss Phœbe Milledge appeared as Aquilina, the lady who with Antonio takes part in a curious comedy scene which is omitted from most of the acting versions of the tragedy. Miss Valerie Warwick and Miss Dorothy Chester were the attendants on Belvidera and Aquilina. The play was produced by Mr Cavendish Morton.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The orchestral concert by the students of the Guildhall School was given on Wednesday last at the City of London School, and opened with Beethoven's noble Symphony in D, Op 36, one of those magnificent monuments of musical art which only increase our admiration of the composer the more frequently it is heard. At first it may seem a bold venture on the part of students to attempt such a masterpiece, but extremely well-trained, and conducted with the utmost care and zeal by Dr. Cummings, no opening was left for adverse criticism; and indeed we have little, if any, fault to find with the rendering of this glorious work. The various movements were taken with strict attention to the tempo, and the adagio molto, the allegro con brio, the lovely larghetto, the brilliant scherzo, and the final allegro molto all proved the extremely careful training that is devoted to the students of the Guildhall School by the professors and their esteemed principal. We have only to look back a few years and recall how such a symphony would have been played by musical students. But we have happily "changed all that," and both professors and pupils may be congratulated on the results. Miss Lilian M. Evison has not, perhaps, quite the physical resources required for such an exacting vocal effort as the cavatina from Meyerbeer's *Roberto Il Diavolo*, but she succeeded uncommonly well, all things considered, and the hearty applause she won was justified. Miss Katherine E. Harman played the Concerto in G minor of Mendelssohn in a style worthy of the beauty of the work. The lovely andante in particular was given with the utmost expression and refinement, and the presto finale lost nothing of its fire and animation. Miss Harman is a pupil of Mr Henry Gadsby, and does credit to that admirable musician, who must have felt pleased with the success of his talented pupil. Here and there the orchestra hardly gave sufficient support to the soloist, but any slight defects were redeemed in the bouyant overture to *Preciosa*, by Weber, with which the excellent concert concluded. The hall of the City of London School was crowded. Mrs Charles P. Smith, as usual, had charge of the lady students. Gounod's *Romeo and Juliet* is being rehearsed by the opera class under the experienced guidance of M. Jacobi.

THE Duchess of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, Princess Beatrice of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, Princess Henry of Battenberg, Princess Victoria Eugénie, Prince Alexander, and Prince Leopold of Battenberg were present at the performance of *Aida* at the Royal Opera, Covent-garden, last Monday night.—The Duchess of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, with her daughter, Princess Beatrice; Princess Henry of Battenberg and her children, the Princess Eugenie, Prince Leopold, and Prince Alexander; Princess Victor of Hohenlohe, and Countess Gleichen were present at the performance of *Traviata* at the Royal Opera, Covent-garden, on Wednesday.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, MAY 3.—The happy idea of distributing through the post numerous packages of wedding cake and silver lettered cards, arranged on the conventional lines adopted by sentimental brides, created wide-spread interest on the first production of *The Marriage of Kitty*. However, even this novel method of advertising was hardly necessary to attract an audience. We have seen so little of comedy in Melbourne since the disbanding of the Brough Company, that the advent of Mr J. C. Williamson's new company was awaited with undisguised pleasure, and last Saturday evening the Princess's Theatre was duly crowded to the doors by an expectant and eager audience. An additional feature of local interest was centred in the first appearance in comedy of Miss Rose Musgrove, a native of this city, who, with the exception of playing Mimi, in *The Only Way*, some time ago, had never been seen outside comic opera. The bright comedy, though a farce as regards the groundwork, moved with crispness from start to finish. This result, no doubt, was largely due to what may be termed a preliminary canter in Adelaide and Ballarat, where brief seasons gave the stage-manager, Mr H. H. Vincent, the opportunity to secure the best form of dress rehearsals prior to the Melbourne first night. Miss Florence Hamer (Mdlle. De Semiano), Miss Florence Le Clercq (Rosalie), Mr Wm. Dravcott (Sir R. Belsize), and Mr F. W. Permain (Norbury) made their first bow to a Melbourne audience, but Mr Athol Ford, who plays John Travers, is already well and favourably known through his comedy parts during Mr Musgrove's recent Shakespearian season. The new arrivals, by the refinement of their acting, have amply justified the cordial reception extended by last Saturday's audience, and Miss Musgrove's interpretation of Kitty was received with most pronounced expressions of approval.

AT Her Majesty's, Mr J. C. Williamson's headquarters, *The Darling of the Gods*, after a highly successful season, will give way to *The Sign of the Cross*. Mr Julius Knight will play Marcus, the character in which he made his first appearance in Melbourne a few years ago, and Miss Maud Jefferies will be seen in Australia for the first time in her original part of Mercia.

MR WILLIAM ANDERSON'S dramatic company is playing *Her Second Time on Earth* at the Theatre Royal, where "full house" is a nightly experience, and at the Opera House a strong combination of music hall artists is equally successful. At the latter theatre Mr Nat Clifford divides honours with the Uessems, Miss Maud Beatty, and Mr Ernest Fitts.

A SCENIC ARTISTS' BILL.

Mr Edmund Banks was the painter of an Indian temple interior for the Chatsworth theatricals last year, when his Majesty's indisposition caused the Royal visit to the "Palace of the Peak" to be postponed. On Thursday he sued, in the Westminster County Court, Mr Stewart, stage-manager at the Garrick Theatre, for £25 in payment.

Mr Banks said he received the order to do the work in January, 1903, from Mr Stewart, who was stage-manager to the Chatsworth theatricals. He thought he was working for the Duke of Devonshire till one day he saw Mr Stewart, who said the work was for him personally, as the Chatsworth stage-manager.

Mr Hawes Craven said he should have charged more for the work than Mr Banks had done.

The scenery was ordered to be brought into court, but it took up so much room that Judge Woodfall quickly sent it out again.

Mr Stewart said he never promised to pay for the work. A writ was not taken out till he gave evidence against Mr Banks in another case. The scenery was a little present of workmanship in return for all he had done for Mr Banks.

Judge Woodfall—Why should he do work for nothing? Stewart—I kept expenses down.

The case was adjourned, provided that the costs of the day were paid in seven days; otherwise judgment would be given against Mr Stewart.

AT the Borough Theatre, Stratford, this week the drama, in four acts, by Walter Melville, entitled *Her Second Time on Earth*, has been performed. The cast includes Miss Hilda Beverley in her original part of Dora Grey, and the character is portrayed with all the artistic ease and finish necessary to realise the woman with the form of an angel and the heart of a fiend. Guy Brand has a sterling exponent in Mr Eugene Santley, who easily succeeds in making the personage generally disliked. Mr Charles Franmore has carefully studied the rôle of Captain Norman, and his acting is admirable throughout. Mr Wilton J. Selby makes up well and plays capitally as Beppo, and the character of Dr. Ridley is safely entrusted to Mr Henry Heller. Jack Carlton is represented by Mr Lawrence and Mr David G. Noble plays Tom Norman. Miss Elaine Vanbrugh is a charming and sympathetic Laura Norman, and Miss Polly Marsh contributes a good character study as Elizabeth Burke. The comedy business is chiefly in the hands of Mr Charles Leverton, very amusing as Teddy Butterfly, and Miss Hulu Hodgson, duly pert and piquant as Kitty Rosebud.

AT the Theatre Royal, Stratford, the drama, in four acts, by C. Watson Mill, entitled *A Wrecker of Men*, is the attraction this week. The piece is lavishly mounted. As Risca Mallinson Miss Rosalind Tate plays in a cynical style which is very effective; Mr C. Watson Mill is seen to great advantage as Jim Murley, the part suiting him exactly; Mr Sydney Fiennes as Railton supplies an excellent character sketch; and Mr Charles Yorke plays with expression and all the necessary dignity as the Egyptian Pharosaphus. Guise Strange has a manly exponent in Mr Alfred Maurice, and the Hon. Reggie Verincourt is capitally portrayed by Mr Mac J. Cumming. Mr T. W. Hurst, who duplicates the rôles of Ezekiel Isaacs and the mummy, Karnaphus, is excellent; and Mr Harold Chapin Montague enacts Eric Melville. Doris Melville has a pretty and tender exponent in Miss Muriel Dean; and Miss Kitty Melville makes a sprightly Vavasole Sloper.

MADAME JUDITH GAUTIER, the celebrated daughter of the great Théophile Gautier, so well known to all lovers of French literature, has just had a play accepted by Sarah Bernhardt. Madame Gautier's collaborateur is Pierre Loti. She has already won fame as an authoress by her *Marchand de Sourires*, one of the most exquisite romances ever presented at the Odéon.

IN Paris next October a sum of £4 000 will be offered in prizes for an opera or lyric drama, a comic opera, a symphony, a ballet, and an operetta. The patrons of the scheme are Prince Albert of Monaco, M. Henri Deutsch de la Meurthe, and the Société des Grandes Auditions Musicales, of which the Comtesse Greffulhe is the president.

MISS BEATRICE MAY has been obliged to relinquish her part in *The Money-Makers* at the Royalty, owing to pressing family affairs.—Miss Anna Beaumont is engaged for her old part of Mrs Buzzard in the *In the Ranks* company for autumn tour.

MESSRS SOTHEBY, WILKINSON, AND HODGE, at their rooms in Wellington-street, Strand, on Wednesday, obtained £1,615 for a collection of books selected from the library of the late Francis Darby. An excellent copy of the second folio Shakespeare, with the rare Smethwick title-page, 1632, made £250; "The Lamentable and True Tragedy of Master Arden, of Faversham, in Kent," 1633, attributed to Shakespeare, £53; and Boydell's "Shakespeare Gallery," 1803, £22 15s.

"ALONE IN CHINA."

An Entirely New and Modern Chinese Drama, Produced at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, on Monday, June 13.

ENGLISH CHARACTERS.

Sir Reginald Haversham.. MR CLIFFORD GORDON
Charles Haversham..... MR ST. JOHN-BEECHER
Captain Harold Haldane.. MR JUAN D'ALBERTI
Bill Stunt ..... MR CHARLES NINIAN
Freddy Haversham ..... Little JOSIE LOVE
Mother Bebb ..... Miss MARA COLLINGS
Kate Belton ..... Miss ADA CLARK
Adela Crichton..... Miss PATEY TROUNSELL

CELESTIALS.

Wang-Hai ..... MR EDWIN WALTON
Chen-Foo ..... MR R DUNCAN-BELL
Chin-Chin ..... MR EDWIN CLARKE
Lai-Tai..... Miss DOROTHY NORMANDALE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

Alone in China possesses all the virtues of popular and effective melodrama. Its scenic equipment is excellent, while the music, composed specially by Mr William Southworth, is no inconsiderable factor in the success of the production. The play, save for the first act, moves at China at a time coincident with the uprising of the Boxers, and some striking scenes of the Orient are brought before the eye. Anterior to this, however, we meet the central characters at Sir Reginald Haversham's conservatory, Haversham Hall, Devon, where Sir Reginald and Charles Haversham, a missionary about to start for China in his capacity as missioner, are discussing the dangers of the situation there, dangers which the brave and good clergyman makes very little of. Harold Haldane, who is of the family, and is really waiting for dead men's shoes, Sir Reginald's and Charles Haversham's to wit, has already announced his impending departure for the Orient as Captain of H.M.S. Spitfire. Bill Stunt, boatswain of the Spitfire, and with no great liking for his captain, has been letting his tongue run anent his captain's callous nature in shooting down a Negro in cold blood. This much to the captain's chagrin, he having an eye to Sir Reginald's property, and so much in haste is he to consummate his purpose, that he has designs, not only on the estates, but also the lives of his relatives, Sir Reginald and Charles. Sir Reginald's disgust at Captain Harold's deed is diverted, and Kate Belton arrives from the post-office, where she presides, and whereat serious discrepancies are taking place. The good missioner had, it seems, an early and unhappy marriage, being tied to a drunkard, who had ultimately, in a drunken delirium, thrown herself out of a window, killing herself in the act. Charles, being thus left with an only child, a boy, is drawn to the young and sweet-natured post-mistress, Kate, whom he implores, as she is troubled over the defalcations previously mentioned, to undertake the care of his boy. Miss Belton (Kate) asks time to consider the offer, which is overheard by the unseen Captain, who is casting eyes on her himself, notwithstanding that he is hand and glove with an unscrupulous adventuress, Adele Crichton, the real authoress of the post-office thefts. These thefts are later fixed on the innocent shoulders of the heroine, Kate Belton, who is borne away in custody with her lover's expressions of her innocence ringing in her ears. Previous to this we have been introduced to Mother Bebb and her niece, Adele Crichton. But conceiving a violent and unreasoning hate for the heroine, and a mad infatuation for her own accomplice, she is as wax in the villain's scheming hands.

The second act brings us to the Port of Shanghai, Here the comic and muscular boatswain, Bill Stunt, is infecting the Chinese feminine mind with Western ideas of love, to which his fair pupil, one Lai Tai, a Chinese laundry maid, readily succumbs. Stunt obviously exercises his sailor's prerogative to have a sweetheart in every port. Mother Bebb has adopted the avocation of a Chinese laundry woman. Her niece is installed in luxury by a dotiug mandarin, and her false accomplice, Captain Harold Haldane, who is now in treaty with the chief of the Boxers, Wang-Hai, to further his stratagems, is here with H.M.S. Spitfire. Sir Reginald is, however, dead, but Charles Haversham is here prosecuting his good works, accompanied by his second wife, who is Kate Belton released from prison, and acting a true woman's and a good mother's part to his orphan boy, Freddy. This boy, while in charge of a native convert, Chin-Chin, is stolen by the Boxers at the instigation of Captain Haldane, and with his attendant, is bound to a cross within an opium den, the meeting-place of the Boxers, where Captain Haldane covenants for the destruction of the whole of the English party, saving his own precious self, of course. The sacrifice of the child is prevented by the appearance of the heroic father with Bill Stunt and Lai-Tai, who, by some devious and unknown means, have gained the citadel. The temple of Kwan-Tai is next sought by the hero, where Wang-Hai bids him welcome to the sacrifice of his own son. When the pugnacious boatswain lifted up his voice and threatened his captors with the vengeance of an Englishman, the enthusiasm was at its height. Eventually the prisoners are thrust away, and we see the idols denuded of their jewels by the unhappy Adele, inspired and spurred by Haldane, who accompanies her disguised. They are surprised by the sudden appearance of Kate, the heroine, and this leads to recriminations, in the midst of which the Boxers discover them with the jewels stolen. Adele thrusts the guilt on the ever-unfortunate Kate, who avows her innocence, explaining that she has been lured there by a trick. All seem likely to die save the heroine, who is to be reserved by direction of the Boxers, when the lively little Chinese maid, Lai-Tai; contrives to escape her captors. The English party has just been adjudged for torture and death, when Lai-Tai reappears with the bluejackets, and the situation is saved. The fearsome octopus and bat used in this tableau should prove most effective, presenting as it did on Monday night a particularly weird and awe-striking spectacle, which fairly brought down the house.

In act four the discomfited, but by no means daunted, Wang-Hai makes another successful attempt to kidnap the child, this time from the mission station, which the Boxers fire during service. The last scene shows Mother Bebb's garret, whither the boy has been borne captive, and leading from here is the roof from where, in a fearful encounter with Haldane, Wang-Hai is flung into the street below, Haldane meeting the same death from an avenging Boxer. The adventuress, Adele, who has been partially strangled a few moments before by Haldane in his impotent fury at the failure of his schemes, dies penitent, and all else ends happily.

Miss Patey Trounsell acted with splendid force and discretion as Adele Crichton, and nothing whatever was wanting on her part to ensure the success of the piece. Miss Ada Clark displayed the sweet characteristics of the English heroine in a strange land. Miss Dorothy Normandale as the lively Lai-Tai showed the requisite vivacity and charm, and Miss Mara Collings gave an exceedingly fine study of the unscrupulous Mother Bebb. Little Miss Josie Love made a pretty boy, and was very popular. Mr St. John-Beecher played the missionary-cleric in a militant style which roused the house to considerable fervour. Mr Juan D'Alberti made an admirable Captain Harold Haldane. Mr Clifford Gordon was a dignified Sir Reginald. Mr Chas. Ninian as Bill Stunt, the boatswain, carried all before him with his stentorian tones and vigorous attitudes. Mr Edwin Walton as the sinister Wang-Hai impressed the house in all his scenes. Mr Edwin Clarke was quaint as Chin-Chin, and Mr R Duncan-Bell successfully enacted the high priest, Chen-Foo. The play was produced by Mr Henry Johnston, under the direction of Mr Hubert S. Chambers.

ON THE ROAD, JUNE 20.

ARMADALE REPERTOIRE.—G. T., Margate.
AUSTIN, MARY.—Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.
BEAUTIFUL FIEND.—Met. Theatre, Gateshead.
BID FOR FORTUNE.—Gaiety Theatre, Leith.
BIGAMY.—Royalty Theatre, Barrow.
BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
BLACK BISHOP.—Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.
CHRISTIAN.—Standard Theatre, E.
CONSCRIPT.—Prince's Theatre, Accrington.
CRIMSON CLUB.—P. O. W., Southampton.
DANDY DOCTOR.—Empire Theatre, Southend.
DAN THE RAKE.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—O. H., Coventry.
DISHONOURED.—West London Theatre, W.
FATAL FORTUNE.—Grand Theatre, Hull.
FAITHFUL FRIEND.—T. R., Rotherham.
FIGHT FOR LIFE.—T. R., Huddersfield.
FOR THE WOMAN HE LOVES.—L. T., Stafford.
FOR THE KING.—Theatre Royal, Smethwick.
FRIVOLITY.—Kennington Theatre, S E.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS.—New Theatre, Chatham.
GREED OF GOLD.—Colosseum, Oldham.
HER FATAL PAST.—R. T., Liverpool.
HERO OF THE FLAG.—Alex. T., Birmingham.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—T. R, Stratford.
HIS MAJESTY'S GUESTS (N.).—T. R., Attercliffe.
HOT NIGHT.—Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.
I DEFY THE WORLD.—R. T., Morecambe.
JACK'S SWEETHEART.—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Kilworth Camp.
LADY GODIVA.—Queen's Theatre, Swindon.
LADY OF OSTEND.—Theatre Royal, Plymouth.
LAUGHTER-LAND.—Theatre Royal, Worthing.
LIFE AT STAKE.—Opera House, Northampton.
LIFE'S STORY.—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
LITTLE MISS NOBODY.—T. R, Middlesbrough.
LONDON FIREMAN.—Surrey Theatre, S E.
MAN TO MAN.—Grand Theatre, Derby.
MANXMAN.—Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth.
MARRIAGE OF VENGEANCE.—T. R., Scarborough.
MOCKERY OF MARRIAGE.—Theatre R., Barnsley.
NEW HOUSEMAID.—Opera House, Buxton.
OTTO THE OUTCAST.—T. R., West Bromwich.
PRIEST OF THE TEMPLE.—P. O W. T., Nuneaton.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
RICHARD LOVELACE.—King's T., Hammersmith.
ROYAL DIVORCE (KELLY) (N.).—Aldershot.
ROYAL DIVORCE (KELLY) (S).—Bristol.
SAVED FROM THE SEA.—C. T., Pontypridd.
SECRETS — — —.—B. T., North Shields.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—O. H., St. Helens.
SINS OF A CITY.—Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.
STILL ALARM.—Pavilion Theatre, E.
STOLEN BIRTHRIGHT.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
SWEET AND TWENTY.—Opera House, Southport.
TRAITOR PRINCE.—Theatre Royal, Stockport.
TRIP TO CHINATOWN.—T. R., Bournemouth.
TRIP TO RUM-FUM.—T. R., Workington.
TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—Alexandra T., N.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (HARRINGTON).—W. Hartlepool.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (TULLY).—T. R., Cardiff.
WARNER, GRACE.—Grand Theatre, Blackpool.
WHAT A WOMAN DID.—P. O. W. T., Grimsby.
WHEN THE LIGHTS ARE LOW.—Grand T., Hanley.
WHY WOMAN SINS.—Broadway Theatre, S.E.
WOMAN OF PLEASURE.—Crown Theatre, Peckham.
WORLD'S DESIRE.—Theatre Royal, Hanley.
ZAZA.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.

AN actress named Felisa Gonzalez was shot dead on the stage of the Orts Theatre, Madrid, on Saturday night. In the course of the popular drama *Diego Corrientes* an actor named José Jimenez had to fire a pistol. Senorita Gonzalez fell shot through the heart, the weapon having been, by mistake, loaded with ball.

MDLLE. GABRIELLE DORZIAT, who is paying her first visit to London as a member of M. Félix Riche's company at the Avenue Theatre, is a rising young Parisian actress who made her début at the Théâtre du Parc in Brussels. Her next engagement was at the Théâtre du Gymnase in Paris, where she has remained since 1900, and up to a few days ago she played with immense success in that sensational play, *Le Retour de Jerusalem*. She greatly pleased the Parisians in *Petit Chagrin*, *La Bourse ou la Vie*, *La Bascule*, and Londoners will welcome her in her original parts in those plays, as well as in *Antoinette Sabrier*, in which she will sustain the leading rôle.

MESSRS KLAW AND ERLANGER'S Aerial Gardens and New Amsterdam Theatre at New York are certainly novel. They are at a height of 120ft. above the street, one theatre being superimposed upon the other. Two great elevators, each holding fifty people, run to the seventh floor of the New Amsterdam building. These elevators open into the lobby of the Aerial Theatre. The building is of skeleton construction, the side walls being made up of revolving windows. These when unfastened make the Aerial Theatre practically an open-air structure. Closed, they render it completely weather-proof.

A LARGE and representative meeting will be held at Queen's Hall in the first week in July to urge upon the Government the need of their assistance to save the new Musical Copyright Bill from being "talked out" in the House of Commons. Among those who have promised to be present are some of the leading composers and vocalists, representatives of the great music publishing firms and the retail trade, and a number of persons interested in or dependent on the preservation of the music industry. Several Members of Parliament will speak, and a resolution will be proposed embodying the views of the meeting.

DR. FRIEDMANN, a Berlin playwright, realising that a translated French play stands a better chance of success in Germany than an original German production, has given a new comedy of his a French title, and described it as by an imaginary French author, claiming credit as the translator only. The piece scored a success at Stettin.

HERR GERHART HAUPTMANN, the famous German dramatist, was attacked by typhoid fever some weeks ago while travelling in Italy, and for some time his life was in the balance. Now, however, Herr Hauptmann is convalescent and at home again.

THE Cradley Heath Theatre will on and after August Bank Holiday be known as the Empire, Cradley Heath. It will be worked on the two-houses-a-night system, with a variety and dramatic company; but for the big dramatic and pantomime companies already booked there will only be one performance nightly.

MASCAGNI'S new opera is entitled *Amica*. The libretto is in French, by Paul Bérel. It is in one act, and plays for one hour and a-half. There are only five people in the cast. Paul Choudens has already bought the opera, which will be produced at the Casino, Monte Carlo, next winter, with Alvarez, Renaud, and Calvé in the cast.

THE body of Mr Harold Wilfrid Hornby, a professional violinist, was discovered in the Thames on Tuesday morning. The body, which was picked up off Alderman Stairs, near the entrance to St. Katherine's Dock, had apparently been in the water some considerable time. It was taken to the mortuary attached to the Stepney Coroner's Court, Horseferry-branch-road, where a gold watch and chain with a silver souvenir, on which was the name "Rosaline," was found in one of the waistcoat pockets. Mr Hornby was a well-known violinist, and had been engaged recently in the orchestra at the Lyric Theatre during the performances of *The Duchess of Dantzic*. At the inquest on Thursday an open verdict was returned.

"THE LADY AND THE LION."

A Modern Play, in Three Acts, by Arthur Hare and Ashton Pearse, Presented for the First Time on any Stage at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, on Tuesday, June 14.

The Earl of Dulverton .. MR ARTHUR HARE
Capt Aubrey Fergusson. MR T. A. SHANNON
Gerald..... MR GARNET WILSON
Sir Joshua Pilbington.... MR MONTAGUE RUTHERFURD
Admiral Sir George Rattling, K.C.B ..... MR CLIFFORD SEYLER
Mr Simpkins..... MR HENRY CRAWLEY
Brocklehaw..... MR EGERTON HINE
Parker..... MR E. FREDERIC MEADS
Lady Cattenham..... Miss DORA FELLOWES
Coral Marjoribanks .... Miss MARY CONROY
Hon Mrs Kate Bonnington ..... Miss NORA GREENLAW
Countess of Dulverton .. Miss JANETTE STEER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Messrs Arthur Hare and Ashton Pearse, authors of *The Lady and the Lion*, a three-act society play produced on Tuesday at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, may be congratulated at least upon a sincere and successful endeavour to present their story dramatically and straightforwardly. It is not trammelled by side interests which need to be developed independently in the usual cheap style of the "smart" writer, nor is its dialogue too obtrusively alive with epigrammatic cleverness. The incidental embellishments of the story are (with the slightest exceptions) agreeably pertinent, while its pointed phrasing here and there is always consistent with the humour and naturalness of the dialogue. The quality of the play is felt in the first act, which sets forth the situation between Lord Dulverton and his wife. They had married for love, but Lord Dulverton's experiences in West Africa, before he came into the title, had left him a slave to drink, and we hear her ladyship speak of him with disgust. It is, indeed, not only disgust which is in her, but an abhorrence arising from her inclination toward another man, Captain Aubrey Fergusson, a society "lion," who, rather curiously, perhaps, has also been in West Africa, and has known Lord Dulverton under the name of George Ingram. The Countess of Dulverton has a friend, the Hon Mrs Kate Bonnington, who is cognisant of the state of affairs, and who tries to persuade her ladyship into the straight path by giving the Earl another chance to reform. During their argument a letter arrives from Captain Fergusson, making an appointment with the Countess to meet him in his flat that evening. The latter's friend, seeing the letter, dissuades her from this step, however, and she is allowed to put it to the flames just as Lord Dulverton is heard approaching. They go out, and the letter is only half burned; and of course, Dulverton finds it. A scene ensues in which Dulverton insinuates his apparently well-grounded suspicion; her ladyship retorts by calling him a drunken beast, and immediately sits down and writes word to Fergusson that she will keep his appointment. Thereupon she goes out. Knowing her purpose, a revulsion occurs in Lord Dulverton; he indicates it by smashing his glass of brandy into the fireplace. The second act takes place in Fergusson's rooms. Fergusson is expecting the arrival of the Countess at any moment; instead of whom, it is the Earl who comes. It is, perhaps, a flaw in the plot, as regards probability, that Fergusson does not know that George Ingram is now no other than the husband of the woman he would decoy; but this assumption of the authors furnishes some very piquant conversation between the two men on subjects relevant to the case. While they are talking, Dulverton subtly reminding his old acquaintance of many shady actions in the latter's career, the Countess happens to arrive, and as there is no other way out Dulverton has to pass into another room for awhile. The scene between Fergusson and the Countess is, in the circumstances, rather too strenuous; but, when the Countess has torn herself away from the adventurer's persuasions, the Earl comes forth and says that he has heard nothing of their conversation — he has recognised only the lady's voice. Still, he does not confess himself to be the lady's husband; admitting then that he also is in love with the Countess, he charges Fergusson with past misdemeanours, and threatens to bring them home to him if he does not leave the country in a fortnight. At the end of this bitter scene Fergusson refuses these conditions, and the Earl and Countess of Dulverton betake themselves to Scotland, pending an issue. The issue is that the Countess's regard for her husband begins to revive. But she is foolish enough to send for Fergusson, so that she may tell him, face to face, that he no longer exercises his mesmeric fascination over her; and the interview is interrupted by the Earl at a moment when it seems that Fergusson's fascination for her still remains. It is now, after the slow exit of her ladyship, that the identity of George Ingram is revealed to Fergusson, who is constantly exposing his ungentlemanlike nature, and who hereupon surpasses himself in the matter of bad taste. It seems to his lordship that nothing but a separation, at least, can ensue upon all this, although he believes the word of his wife that nothing really serious has occurred. But a satisfactory sentimental ending is devised instead.

It is hardly necessary to define the subsidiary characters who figure in the progress of these simple and direct events. Gerald, Lady Dulverton's brother, is an engaging young fellow in love with Coral Marjoribanks, who is a very pleasing example of the kind of young lady who fascinates the typical "juvenile." Both parts were capitally played by Mr Garnet Wilson and Miss Mary Conroy respectively. Miss Norah Greenlaw's part, that of the Hon. Mrs. Kate Bonnington, was interpreted rather ruefully, but with very good effect. As Lady Cattenham Miss Dora Fellowes has the opportunity to say some of the smart things of the excellent first act. Referring to a certain lady who paints her fan, Lady Cattenham says that she is "as horrid as she is florid;" and as to her social position, "she is the present tense, with an irregular past and a conditional future." Another character likens one's choice of champagne to a choice of wives—"if they are old they are too dry; if they are young they are too sweet." Dulverton's effort at reform leads him, later, to remark that it is not the "higher" but the "drier" life he is seeking; and there is grim humour in Fergusson's answer to Dulverton's question of him as to where his wife is. Fergusson says he does not know—she is dead.

Much of the body of the play comes, of course, in those scenes in which the Countess of Dulverton takes part, and to the eye of Tuesday's audience much of the total effect was due to Miss Janette Steer's interpretation of the rôle. It is more than probable, however, that the authors have laboured a little unduly over the sentiment of this central part, and it would gain strength by modification. It was apparent once or twice that Miss Janette Steer found her sentiment over-weighing the situation. Nevertheless, she acted with fine accomplishment. The great part is really that of the Earl of Dulverton, and Mr Arthur Hare handled it with excellent judgment and reserve. The third important part, that of Captain Fergusson, was played with the requisite understanding by Mr T. A. Shannon.

Although the play cannot be ranked as a great one, it was received with marked favour by a large audience, who demanded and redemanded the acknowledgments of the authors at the close. Mr Arthur Hare replied with some words of thanks, adding that, as the play was so well received, it would be repeated on Saturday night in place of that already announced.

AT the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, last Saturday afternoon, was produced for copyright purposes a farcical comedy, in three acts, by Philip Clifford, entitled *Why William Lied*.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

(SPECIAL TO THE ERA.)

The preliminary bouts of the wrestling competition, in connection with the theatrical sports, will take place on the Adelphi Theatre stage on Monday morning, commencing at 11·30 prompt. Apollo will act as judge. The rules of the competition are as follow:—1. Catch weight. Catch-as-can-catch style. 2. The names of the competitors will be put into a hat and drawn at 11·30. The first two names drawn will wrestle, the two next drawn, and so on, If there is an odd man, he will draw for a bout. 3. The time-limit will be fifteen minutes. One fall to decide each contest. The final will be the best two of three falls. The first man down on both shoulders will lose. 4. In the event of no fall in the time allowed, the man who does most of the attacking will receive points every time he manages to get behind his opponent. 5. The winners in each bout will draw, as above, for the semi-final bouts. 6. The decision of the judge will be final. The first prize is a silver cup, presented by Mr Herbert Sleath, the chairman of the Sports Committee.

MR EDMUND PAYNE will be one of the judges of the sports on the 28th inst. A special programme will be issued as a souvenir, containing a number of photographs. Every programme will be printed on art paper and tied with silk ribbon.

MR H. SKELLY, the property master at the Empire, Leicester-square, having been in indifferent health for some time, has gone to the Isle of Man for a few weeks' rest. All Mr Skelly's numerous friends wish him a pleasant holiday and a speedy restoration to health.

MR S. J. KESSELL, master carpenter, Comedy Theatre, who had the misfortune to break his leg some time ago, is not yet out of the hospital, but is progressing favourably.

NOTICES and reports of meetings, &c., are invited from the various societies with which stage employees are connected.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

ALEXANDER.—June 10, at 6, Spital-street, Dartford, Lulu Curl, wife of L. Alexander, of a son. Both doing well.

HECTOR.—June 15, wife of Hector, wire performer, of a fine daughter. Both doing well.

REYNOLDS.—June 7, Flossie Stanley, the wife of Arthur Reynolds, of a lovely daughter. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

CHESTER—MADDISON.—Feb 17, at Portsmouth, Erne Chester, of the Tally Ho! Trio, to May Maddison. With many apologies to all interested friends for belated notice.

DEATHS.

CROSSLAND.—June 8, the wife of Victor Gouriet (Miss Maggie Crossland), comedienne and dancer.

DRUMMOND.—June 10, at 2, Summerside-street, Leith, very suddenly, Robert Drummond, wine and spirit merchant (Princess bar), Kirkgate, Leith.

FITZ-GERALD.—June 17, Desmond Adair, the infant son of S. J. Adair and Blanche Fitz-Gerald, at Wimbledon, through shock, aged four and a-half years.

HEATH.—At 9, Retiro-street, Oldham, Caroline Heath, aged seventy years, through accident. Widow of the late Thomas Hy. Heath, scenic artist.

HOTINE.—June 14, at his residence, 51, Brisbane-street, Camberwell-green, John Hotine (Robertson), dog trainer and performer, aged sixty-four.

MRS AMELIA HOLBROOK, at the Actors' Home, Staten Island, U.S.A., on Sunday read a paper on the influence of music. Certain kinds, asserted Mrs Holbrook, prevent the hair from falling out, and other kinds produce baldness. Those who play their own compositions on the piano preserve, and often acquire, a luxuriant growth of hair. Performances on the violoncello and harp also have a tendency to preserve the hair; but wind instruments, especially the trombone and cornet, are fatal to hirsute adornment.

A NEW pastoral play of the picturesque Georgian period, *My Lord from Town*, by H. M. Paull, the author of *The New Clown*, has been written for Mr Ben Greet, and will be played for the first time by his company of Woodland Players in Worcester College gardens at Oxford to-day.

IN the Court of Bankruptcy, on Wednesday, before Mr G. W. Chapman, official receiver, was held the first meeting of creditors under the failure of Arthur Frederick Lewis, described as of Westminster-mansions, actor. It was stated that the debtor was engaged in a West-end theatre, and that he owed about £500, having practically no assets. He hoped to bring in a proposal for the benefit of creditors. The debtor attributes his present position to a claim for dilapidation in respect of a house at which he formerly resided. The meeting was adjourned.

In the Court of King's Bench, on the 10th inst, Messrs Wallis and Down, entertainment proprietors, sued Messrs Galanzi and Sherek, carrying on business as international variety agents, to recover damages for alleged breach of contract. In August of last year the defendants were in possession of the circus building in the Western Gardens, Earl's-court Exhibition, and plaintiffs were desirous of obtaining the building in order to give a cake-walk competition. On Aug. 5 an agreement was signed under which the plaintiffs said they were to have the use of the building at least twice a week for the purpose of their entertainment during the remainder of the season. After they had made preparations for the production of the entertainment, the defendants failed to let plaintiffs have the use of the hall, and the result was that they had sustained considerable loss. Defendants said the use of the building for the cake-walk competition was subject to the granting of a licence by the Earl's-court Exhibition authorities, and, as that licence was not obtained, the plaintiffs were not entitled to the use of the building. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiffs, and assessed the damages at £5.

MR ANDY KERR, comedian and dancer, is now an inmate of the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, where he is to undergo an operation on the stomach. In consequence he has been forced to throw up his twenty weeks' engagement with Mr Harry Reynolds, the Minstrels, Colwyn Bay. He would be pleased to see all friends visiting Liverpool.

MISS MARY ANDERSON (Madame Navarro) is to make another appearance in the East-end, on Thursday next, when, with Madame Albani and Mr Santley, she will sing at the People's Palace, Mile-end.

MR HENRY ANTHONY, who will on Monday present some startling illusions at the Royal Standard Music Hall, Pimlico, has, owing to heavy bookings in these islands, been compelled, reluctantly, to postpone a lucrative engagement at Madeira—Blanche and Diacoff have been specially booked for India for a twelve months' engagement, and sail on Sept. 1.—Mr Ben Albert's latest acquisition is a clever comic song, the work of Fred W. Leigh and Henry E. Pether, entitled "I don't mind if it amuses you."

MR ROBERT ARTHUR, Mr Chute, and Messrs Howard and Wyndham are among the well-known people who have secured for pantomime "The Latest London Betting," by C. J. Coates and W. Hargreaves.

"LUCKY DURHAM."

Play, in Four Acts, by Wilson Barrett,
Produced for the First Time at the
Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, on Thursday, June 9.

John Durham	Mr WILSON BARRETT
Lord Mountfallon.....	Mr T. WIGNEY PERCYVAL
Hon. Reginald Steighton	Mr PAUL BELMORE
Richard Vallerton	Mr DANIEL M'CARTHY
Arthur Walcombe	Mr GEORGE BARRETT
Tyneham Mintborough ..	Mr J. CARTER EDWARDS
Isaac Lubenham	Mr HENRY DE SOLLA
Sir Archie Floton.....	Mr EDWARD IRWIN
Frederick Harpington ..	Mr CALEB PORTER
Ben Verstein	Mr AMBROSE MANNING
Tasker	Mr JOE MONKHOUSE
Little	Mr HENRY RICE
Paddon	Mr JOSEPH MILLANE
Jarvis	Mr GEORGE BELMORE
Helen Vallerton	Miss LILLAH M'CARTHY
Lady Mountfallon	Miss MARY RELPH
Hon. Margaret Steighton	Miss EDITH LATIMER
Mrs Durham	Miss NELLIE BONSER
Mrs Henry Devianne	Miss LILIAN HUGO
Miss Premore.....	Miss CECILIA WILMAN
Duchess of Hovecourt....	Miss PHYLLIS RELPH

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The curtain rises on the Reception Room at the Duchess of Hovecourt's, Belgravia, where, in an atmosphere of fashionable frivolity, we are introduced to the various characters, and interest is at once awakened and sustained in the family and affairs of Lord and Lady Mountfallon, who are well on the road to ruin. With the entrance of John Durham, the play proper begins. An air of mystery surrounds his sympathetic personality. To quote his description by one of the other characters in the play—"John Durham is about thirty, I should imagine. I don't know, for you can never get him to talk of himself, and there are few others who know enough about him to tell you anything. He is a bit of a mystery; seeks no society, accepts few invitations, makes few acquaintances, has friends who swear by him, but who seldom see him except in business. He is one of the most influential and least seen men in the States." Later we learn that he was a millionaire at twenty-three, and "lives always with his mother, whom he worships." Speaking almost in monosyllables, and with a quiet air of self-possession and power, which compel attention and admiration, John Durham is at once "the observed of all observers," and Lady Mountfallon is not slow to put into operation her matrimonial plans for her daughter, though Durham is obviously more attracted by the charms of Helen Vallerton. Between Lord Mountfallon and John Durham there is an apparent strangeness, on the motive and mystery of which the curtain falls without disclosing.

In act two the scene is changed to the garden of Vallerton's house at Ascot. To Helen's father, who expresses a not unnatural curiosity as to his private life, he says,—"What do you wish to know? Am I a good citizen? Ask my country. Am I an honest man? Ask my business associates. Am I a good son? Ask my mother. In America we don't ask what a man's father was but what *he* is." This does not, however, elucidate matters, and it is not until the conclusion of the act, which is admirably led up to, that, after a war of words with Lord Mountfallon, Durham boldly confesses before Helen that he is Mountfallon's natural son.

Act three takes place in John Durham's rooms in Mayfair, where we are introduced to John Durham's mother, an elderly lady full of charm and sweetness, who has evidently been "more sinned against than sinning." She and Helen Vallerton soon become the best of friends, much to the delight of Durham and the consternation of others. Mrs Durham has been deserted years before by Lord Mountfallon, who has since married, while John Durham had in the meantime made his fortune abroad and returned to right his mother and take revenge on his father, whose estates are now mortgaged up to the hilt. Without the knowledge of his mother, Durham buys up everything, lock, stock, and barrel, and, in the final act, takes possession of Castle Mountfallon. Durham's mother conjectures what her son intends to do, and comes to the castle in time to prevent him turning Mountfallon from his home. "It is not justice," she says, "It is revenge," adding that she wants no other title than that of the mother of John Durham. Melted to tears and repentance by the forgiveness of the woman he has so greatly wronged, Lord Mountfallon is left to his own punishment, while, ere the curtain falls, Helen expresses her love for John, who bending over her hand and kissing it, says, "Lucky Durham!"

Mr Barrett's latest production adds another to the long list of successes with which his name is associated. The drama is replete with cunningly devised surprises which come pleasantly and naturally to the audience. Here and there are touches of genuine comedy, which add considerable brightness to the story, and for this credit is due to the spendthrift son of Lord Mountfallon, who is for ever trading in I O U's and promissory notes. In Durham we have a splendid type of a successful man who labours on for a loving mother and with a set purpose—to deal with the man who abandoned her and her child. The quiet, reserved, determined spirit of such a type of character is throughout shown in the speech and actions of Durham, and it may truly be said that Mr Barrett has never before so completely realised the "soul" of a personality as he has in this instance. His outbursts of indignation, his pleading tones, his manly deportment, all are given with an exactitude which stamps the true artist. Surrounding him are able supporters. Miss Lillah M'Carthy as Helen Vallerton has a part which suits her admirably. Certainly she is not called upon to do a great deal, but her work as a maiden required to hold the balance level between her aristocratic father's ideas of marriage and the advances of Durham, was performed with a winsome manner. To Mr T. Wigney Percyval was entrusted the rôle of the false Mountfallon, and well he succeeded in presenting an impecunious and conscience-stricken man. Mr Percyval's make-up was excellent, and his movements entirely in accord with the age and bodily condition of the unfortunate aristocrat. Mr Paul Belmore is deserving of warm congratulations on account of his study of a somewhat silly scapegrace, whose notions of life and enjoyment mainly consist in borrowing money for betting purposes. He was the mainstay of the comedy parts. Mr Daniel M'Carthy made an agreeable Richard Vallerton; a brusque and somewhat amusing Lady Mountfallon, always bent on bringing about matrimonial alliances, was in the hands of Miss Mary Relph; Miss Edyth Latimer conducted herself with discretion as her ladyship's daughter; and Mr Ambrose Manning depicted a shrewd, business-like Jewish money-lender. To Miss Nellie Bonser the warmest praise is due for her tender, sympathetic, and finished character of Mrs Durham, mother of the hero, and Miss Phyllis Relph made an aristocratic Duchess. The scenic effects were not of a specially high-class character, the story not lending itself to an exceptional display, but what there was proved fitting. Some magnificent dresses were worn, especially in the first act, which was prettily arranged.

In conclusion, there is no doubt that a long lease of life is in store for Mr Barrett's excellent play, and when it has got into complete swing it will meet with universal approval. On Thursday evening, considering the short period of rehearsal, the piece ran with commendable smoothness, and the crowded and fashionable audience that was present accorded the play and the players a hearty, earnest, and deserved reception.

"LIBERTY HALL" will be played at the Royal Court Theatre on Monday and Tuesday on behalf of the Repairing Fund of the Earlswood Asylum. The leading part will be played by Miss Lena Halliday, supported by an amateur company.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, JUNE 16.—The hot weather has set in with evidently permanent intentions, and our theatres are suffering in consequence. In a few weeks—or even less—many of them will close for the summer. Several of our courteous managers have placed a number of tickets at the disposal of the members of the International Women's Congress this week, a kindness which is greatly appreciated by visitors to the city.

LIGHTER works being the usual order of things in the heat, the Berliner Theatre is giving Hervé's *Mam'zelle Nitouche*. This theatre is making quite a new departure, having discovered in Herr Walden—the original Karl Heinrich of Alt-Heidelberg—first-rate powers of mimicry and song. The couplet singing of the popular actor is excellent, and anyone might believe he had never done aught else than star in patter songs. Then, too, Frau Annie Dirkens, who made such a success in the name-part of *Der Jüngste Leutnant*, is still at the Berliner, and helping to make the piece go. An enthusiastic reception was the result.

THE Bürgerliches Schauspielhaus (Carl Weiss Theatre) revived a piece on Saturday that had disappeared almost entirely from sight and memory. It was *Die Zauberin am Stein*, volks-play, in four acts, by Franz Nissel, once enjoying a long and successful run. There is much that is well worth revival. The chief rôle of Margarete—called by the people of the village in which the action passes a zauberin or sorceress—is a very fine one; but it needs better acting than was given to it on Saturday. The whole cast, with one or two exceptions, was a very poor one.

BOLDIEU'S melodious little opera, *Die Weisse Dame* is being given at the Royal Opera. It was revived for the gala night on the occasion of the grand review—at which performance the Kaiser and Kaiserin were present—and it met with such evident approval that it has been put in the bill. The chief rôle, that of Lieutenant George Brown, is a grateful one for most artists, but it did not, somehow, suit Herr Grüning—the Tristan of the Royal opera par excellence. Frau Herzog, however, in the name-part made a decided hit, and other rôles were taken in a satisfactory manner by Fräulein Dietrich, Frau Goetze, and Herr Wittekopf.

"DIE SCHOENE HELENA" was given at the New Royal Opera on Tuesday, and although it was heard recently at the Theatre Des Westens, it met with a cordial reception, which would have been even more cordial, no doubt, had the cast been a better one. The voice of Fräulein Paula Worm, who sang the part of Helena, is very pleasing, but it is small and not sufficiently schooled, while Herr Braun as Paris was not at all equal to his work. The interpretation of the very pretty music was far more satisfactory at the Theatre des Westens.

"KAM'RAD LEHMANN" has reached its twenty-fifth consecutive performance at the Belle Alliance, and is still drawing. Herr Thielscher in the name-part is the chief attraction, being irresistibly comical, as usual.

MADAME SADA JAKKO is coming to Berlin again before long with a new repertory and augmented company. The talented Japanese lady is including *Othello* and Ibsen's *Nora* among her plays.

THE Central Theatre has revived a very old, but ever-amusing farce, *Der Raub der Sabinerinnen*, by Herr Von Schönthan. It is one of the earliest works of the gifted playwright, and certainly not the least successful. It amused the audience exceedingly, and Herr Richard in the rôle of Striese gained the lion's share of the applause. Fräulein Josephine Dora was very funny as the maid, Rosa, and the remaining characters were all well sustained.

THE visit to Budapest of the Kleines and Neues companies has been attended with much success. Halbe's *Strom* and Gorki's *Nachtasyl* were given alternately, with the original casts. Director Reinhardt may be congratulated upon his first tour in foreign parts.

FRAULEIN MARGA BURCHARDT, mentioned in your columns some months ago as a most promising young singer, has been engaged for dramatic rôles at the Court Theatre at Schwerin. At the gala performance of *Die Meistersinger*, given in connection with the wedding festivities this month, this charming and talented artiste will sing the part of Eva before the Grand Duke and Duchess and the Royal guests.

"THE SOUTHERNERS."

(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT.)

When the theatrical season in New York is at its last gasp, Mr George W. Lederer always "bobs up" with one of his characteristic musical productions, and dispels the gloom that falls upon upper Broadway when the playhouses close for the summer. This year his production bears the above title, and is described as "a musical study in black and white." The authors are three gentlemen of colour named William Mercer, Richard Grant, and Will Marion Cook, the last-named having composed the music. At the New York Theatre on the 23rd inst. the piece met with a very favourable reception. There are two acts and five scenes, all of which are laid in Louisiana. The period of the first scene, which is called the prologue, is 1880, the rest of the play being dated fifty years earlier. This topsy-turvey arrangement is explained by the fact that the story of the piece hangs on a dream which carries an elderly Southern planter back to the days when he was twenty-one. In the prologue, which takes place in a Southern cabin on Christmas Eve, General Preston, the planter, calls on his favourite slave, drops into a chair, and falls fast asleep. The first scene of the play shows the plantation, a coloured chorus representing the slaves, and the closing scene shows the cabin once more, with the General awake. The story may be summed up in a few words. Young Le Roy Preston falls out with his sweetheart and becomes a lieutenant in the navy. A long-lost cousin from Kentucky appears, and is left in charge of the plantation, while the lieutenant, among other adventures, joins Brannigan Bey, viceroy pro tem. of the Isle of Ballyhoo, in a hunt for beautiful slaves for the latter's harem.

About half the company is white and the other half black. There are songs and dances galore, and the piece is lively—one might almost say strenuous—from start to finish. Of the musical numbers, "Mandy Lou," a plaintive melody sung by Miss Abbie Mitchell, with a chorus of piccaninnies in red frocks and white aprons, made the biggest hit. Miss Elfie Fay as Polly Drayton, a southern belle, sang two songs quaintly, danced cleverly, and kept the fun going at a lively pace. Mr Albert Hart's fine bass voice was heard to advantage in a drinking song lauding the "mint julep;" Mr Junie M'Cree was amusing as Brannigan Bey, his song, "My Little Irish Canary," being a favourite number; Miss Vinie Daly as Parthenia, a coloured maid, won enthusiastic applause for her "whirlwind" dancing. Mr William Gould, who played both the youthful and the elderly Preston, easily maintained his popularity; Mr Eddie Leonard sang "Dandy Dan," a very taking plantation ditty, and his fantastic dancing pleased the audience. A hoop dance by eight little girls was several times encored, and a "squirrel" song, for which a dozen girls were dressed as grey squirrels, was another successful feature. Nine girls represented the Southern States, their good looks and picturesque attire creating a conspicuously pretty effect. Mr Lederer's latest offering is a great success. His reputation as a "summer show" provider is as safe at the New York Theatre as it was for many years at the Casino.

A NEW drama, entitled *To the Bitter End*, written by Mr L. W. Wilmot, will be produced by a well-known theatrical syndicate in Manchester early in September.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C. NICHOLLS.—*Olivia, by W. G. Wills, was produced at the Court Theatre on March 30, 1878.*

LOUIS ROSENTHAL.—*He would certainly be paid a much larger salary than the amount you mention, but we do not know the exact sum.*

R. H. D.—*(1) Pygmalion and Galatea was produced at the Haymarket Theatre on Dec. 9, 1871. (2) The Happy Land was produced at the Court Theatre on March 3, 1873.*

C. T.—*As far as we know the first three titles mentioned have not been used. The Tree of Knowledge, a play, in five acts by R. C. Carton was produced at the St. James's Theatre, on Oct. 25, 1897.*

G. F. (South Shields).—*A copyright performance of a domestic drama, in four acts, by Nita Rae entitled We Are But Human, was given at the Marina Theatre Lowestoft, on Jan. 28, 1903.*

A. T.—*Madame Patey died Feb. 28, 1894, aged fifty-two.*

J. W. J.—*We cannot say.*

BRIXTON.—*Of course he is liable if your statement as to the agreement be strictly accurate.*

F. M.—*(1) The Crystal Palace was opened June 9, 1854. (2) The London Pavilion was reopened Nov. 12, 1900.*

HERBERT.—*Dorothy was first produced at the Gaiety, Sept. 25, 1886.*

C. B.—*(1) Yes. (2) The agreement speaks for itself.*

C. A. A.—*You would have difficulty in proving such a case. He doubtless had a reasonable belief that he was doing what was right.*

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AFTER this week the Grand Theatre, Woolwich, will be closed for a short summer vacation, reopening on Aug. 1 with the drama entitled *The Temptress*.

BY an oversight in last week's notice of the Empire, Huddersfield, we omitted to record the appearance of the graceful and versatile cosmopolitan dancer, Chanti. The turn was one of the most attractive in the bill.

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Three Championship Cups.
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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1904.

HENRY IRVING'S RETIREMENT.

The keen sense of the "fitness of things" which has always marked the career of HENRY IRVING is displayed in the resolve which he recently announced at the Arts Club dinner at Manchester. No doubt, as far as health, energy, and activity are concerned, Sir HENRY could go on acting with profit to himself and pleasure to others for many years. By retiring while still in his artistic prime, he avoids that gradual declension which is inevitable even in the very toughest and most enduring brains and bodies. One of the most painful spectacles possible is that of the "veteran lagging superfluous on the stage," his withered powers praised by kindly habit, his weaknesses condoned by generous custom—a thing for the old to weep over and for young playgoers to marvel at. Again and again we have been grieved observers of this sorry sight. It is far better to go down—as Le Vengeur did *not* go—with all colours flying, than to linger, a "sheer hulk," and rot away by degrees. When falls the Capitol, then falls Rome; and now that the housebreaker's pick has destroyed the old Lyceum we feel that the temple has been ruined and that the presiding deity can never again have a "home" of the same sort. Like SHAKESPEARE'S, Sir HENRY'S later life will be spent, to quote ROWE, "as all men of good sense will wish theirs to be, in ease, retirement, and conversation of his friends." Like SHAKESPEARE, too, Sir HENRY will have gathered "an estate equal to his occasion;" and we may feel confident that his life, unlike the poet's, will not be cut short for many years after the epoch of peaceful enjoyment has begun.

Now that the time of bitter hostilities and eager attacks has passed away, we can look back dispassionately at the career of HENRY IRVING, and estimate it as a whole. Young playgoers can hardly realise the storm that raged round the actor in the "seventies." As everyone remembers, he first attracted attention in *The Bells* at the Lyceum in 1871, and in the October of 1874 he appeared as Hamlet. Some of the essays and criticisms which were published at this period are very amusing reading now; but it would be hardly fair either to their authors or Sir HENRY himself to give extracts from them. The very cleverest may be mistaken when they undertake to prophesy; and, after all, the anti-IRVING articles of the early seventies were not much farther from the mark than the modern forecasts of "hard-shell" Ibsenites like Mr BERNARD SHAW, who fully expected that it was only a question of time for the Scandinavian dramatist's plays to be popular and commercially profitable. It makes us smile now to observe that the greatest offence given by Sir HENRY to his opponents was created by his "mannerisms." As an old dramatist once said, "No man has ever been a popular favourite in my time unless he was a pronounced mannerist. CHARLES KEMBLE was a silver-toned, sententious mannerist; EDMUND KEAN was a stuttering and spasmodic mannerist; MACREADY and PHELPS always grim and growling over their bones; CHARLES KEAN had a chronic cold in the head; KEELEY was sleek and sleepy; BUCKSTONE, a chuckler; BEN WEBSTER was always imperfect, and had a Somersetshire dialect; MATHEWS was a Mephisto in kid gloves and patent boots; and RYDER was a roarer." The absurdity of attaching so much importance to merely superficial characteristics is obvious to us now; but in the "early seventies" such things were deemed of great pith and moment. The reform which HENRY IRVING came to effect was as much in the dramatic criticism of his day as in the conception of character and the mounting of plays.

Complete success in art is only made by the man who is just in front of his time so as to lead it without being detached from it. The defect of the stage in the early seventies was a want of intellectual refinement. The spirit of the time resembled an athlete in his middle-age. Acting had ceased to be strong, and had not begun to be subtle. The drama, a little outpaced by the other arts, had fallen into disrespect with the more cultured section of society. When we remember that MACREADY'S favourite expression at rehearsals was "Beast of hell!" and that he wrestled with a ladder in the wings for several minutes before going on the stage in order to excite his passions, we perceive the gulf which divides him from the modern actor-manager. It is something like that between the novels of CHARLES READE and those of JOHN OLIVER HOBBES. The victory almost instantaneously achieved by IRVING was that of intelligence over brute force. Of course, now that everyone has followed suit, now that artistic productions are the rule and not the exception, now that skilled archæologists are engaged to attend to the accuracy of details of stage mounting, and Royal Academicians superintend the painting of scenery, the importance of HENRY IRVING'S Lyceum productions may easily be overlooked; but they went hand-in-hand with the same intellectual refinement in every department. The "distinction" which everyone recognises in HENRY IRVING is nothing more than an extreme sensitiveness to impressions. The old school of acting was vigorous, but, in a sense, coarse. The extraordinary part of IRVING'S phenomenal career is that his intellectual sensitiveness should have survived the study and performance of the *four hundred and twenty-eight* parts which were learned and played by him in a period of less than three years in the provinces. That this gigantic industry, which must have involved almost living in the theatre, rehearsing in the day and acting in the evening, should not have brutalised HENRY IRVING as it brutalised others, is a marvellous example of the strength of his natural genius. The benefits which he has conferred on the stage will live after his retirement; and we may hope that, when he ceases to tread the boards, he will maintain in part, at least, his connection with the stage; and that his wise counsels, his kindly sympathy, his fine understanding, and his ripe experience will be still at the disposal of the profession which he has so long and so brilliantly adorned.

HAMPSTEAD HOSPITAL MATINEE.

The beautiful Camden Theatre was again requisitioned on Thursday afternoon, by the kind permission of Mr Frank Curzon, for a matinée entertainment in aid of the funds of the Hampstead General Hospital, towards the erection of which some £12,000 are still required. As Mr Ernest Collins, the chairman of the general committee, remarked in the course of his graceful speech of thanks from the footlights, the members of the theatrical profession are always ready and eager to give their services in the cause of charity, and a goodly number of artists came to divert and entertain a fashionable audience, mostly consisting of ladies, who gave them hearty welcome. Mr Joseph Nurnberger, as well as an increased orchestra, gave their services, and opened the entertainment with a capital rendering of the "Ballet" overture by Richter, and an early appearance was made by the Golden Butterflies—Miss Kathleen Meyer, Miss Dorothy Langden, Mr Dougall, and Mr Greville Hayes—who, under the direction of Madame Belval at the piano, submitted selections from their ample répertoire. In a similar entertainment the Dandies, under the direction of Signor Bocchi and Mr Henry J. Korner, were heard to considerable advantage, their introduction of that favourite number "The Torpedo and the Whale" taking playgoers back to the old days of the Strand Theatre. There was plenty of appreciation for Mr Percy French, who played the simple air of "Three Blind Mice" in the manner of Chopin, Wagner, Mozart, and Beethoven, and told amusing stories. Mr Griffith Humphries, who also entertained at the piano, sketched in amusing fashion the difficulties of composing a sentimental ballad concerning a heroine whose blighted affections can find no other balm than suicide. A delightful interlude during the afternoon was found in *The First Anniversary*, written by the clever Miss Estelle Burney. Frank and Kitty, who were going to be so different to other married couples and who had promised themselves that they would rise superior to the petty commonplaces of rates and taxes and servants, find themselves on their first anniversary completely disillusioned. Kate before marriage could have easily persuaded herself that Frank was cast in a heroic mould, and he in his turn could have worshipped her as a princess. But the work-a-day world has tarnished the romance of both, and they find themselves just ordinary people. But what of that? Their mutual trust and affection have not lessened, and they determine to make the best of things. The anniversary brings its compensations to Frank in the shape of a bath-gown, and Kate rejoices in the possession of a new gas-stove. The duologue was most cleverly and brightly played by Miss Kate Rorke, who made a charming Kate, and Mr A. E. George, who was an excellent Frank. The pleasure of the afternoon was considerably enhanced by the piquant and attractive dancing of the Eight La Scala Girls, who came from the Palace Theatre by permission of Mr Charles Morton. They put an immense amount of brio into their rendering of the haunting Parisian melody, "Viens, poupoule," and their final cakewalk was as enjoyable as it was cleverly presented. Miss Marie Dainton, who graced a Camden pantomime a year or two since, made a hit in her excellent songs, "Whichever you please, Monsieur," and "De congregation will please keep dere seats." Miss Ghita Corri was responsible for a most artistic rendering of the favourite "Jewel" song from *Faust*, and from the same opera Mrs Recoschewitz-Wilson chose the flower song, "La parlate d'amor," which she sang exceedingly well. Both vocalists were heard a second time, Mrs Recoschewitz-Wilson accompanying herself at the piano in the pretty song "Phyllis," by Reginald Clarke. She also accompanied Mr Charles Copland, who displayed his customary charm of style in two songs, "Sincerity," by Emilie Clarke, and "The Little Irish Girl," by H. Lohr. The entertainment, which was excellently stage-managed by Mr Guy Waller, wound up with an exhibition of Bioscope pictures, by the kind permission of the Warwick Trading Company. The prettily dressed programme sellers included the Misses Ethel and Lilian Cherry, Erna Collins, Dorothy Cuthbertson, Sylvia Dale, Muriel East, Dora Pearson, Daisy Ritchie, Ruth Ryalls, Blanche Sills, Gladys Stedman, and Olive Stone. Mr George F. Warden was a courteous representative of the Hampstead Committee, and Mr Leslie Hughes, the popular acting-manager of the theatre, was untiring in his exertions to promote the comfort of everyone. We may add that the building fund of the hospital, though now considered sufficient to allow of a commencement of the work, is still far short of the amount requisite for the completion of even the first section of the building, making provision for fifty beds and the administrative offices.

THE third anniversary of the death of the late Robert Buchanan was on the 10th inst., and his tomb in St. John's Churchyard, Southend, was covered with floral tributes, sent from all parts of the country.

HERR KUBELIK, the violinist, has lost his libel case against the musical critic of the Berlin *Frankfurter Zeitung*. The critic said Kubelik had a stupid look, and that he was more a "speciality" performer than an artist. The Court found for the critic.

MESSRS WILLIAMS AND WALKER'S *In Dahomey* company sailed by the steamship Aurania from Liverpool on Tuesday on its return to New York. Its visit to this country has lasted twelve months, eight of which have been spent in London.

"RICHARD LOVELACE."

Romantic Play, in Three Acts, by Laurence Irving. Played for the First Time in London at the Kennington Theatre, on Monday, June 13.

Captain Richard Lovelace	Mr LAURENCE IRVING
Colonel Martin Hawley	Mr JAMES HEARN
Alderman Sacheverell	Mr CHARLES DODSWORTH
Mr Porter	Mr CLIFFORD BOWN
The Adjutant	Mr LIONEL BELMORE
Mistress Porter	Miss GRACE HAMPTON
Lucy Sacheverell	Miss MABEL HACKNEY

Mr Laurence Irving has that rare gift, an interesting personality; and all he does, whether as a dramatist or an actor, partakes of this quality. *Richard Lovelace*, which was played for the first time in London at the Kennington Theatre, on Monday last, is more worth seeing than many a better-made play. It was, however, impossible to judge of the literary merit of the work, as we were unprovided with a copy, and the author himself, by the indistinctness of his delivery of the poetical passages, prevented them from being fairly judged. As a rule, an actor who is also the author of the piece in which he appears is morbidly anxious that each of his lines shall be heard; but Mr Laurence Irving was far too modest in this particular; and when as Lovelace he retired to the back of the stage and began to soliloquise, there was a complete gap in our audition. Deducting these *lacunæ*, and dealing with *Richard Lovelace* on purely theatrical ground, we find a simple story and plenty of human interest; but hardly enough action for a play which is to occupy almost a whole evening's entertainment.

Mr Laurence Irving has evidently been fascinated by the character of Richard Lovelace, and has made him a sensitive, affectionate, and gentle being, a typical poet of the ideal and romantic order. The pivot of the play is what we may call the "Uriah motive." Colonel Martin Hawley, who is old enough to know better, has fallen in love with Lucy Sacheverell, the young and lively niece of one Sacheverell, an alderman of Worcester city. She has been reading Lovelace's poems, and has been bewitched by them and their author.

The action opens just before the battle of Worcester. Hawley, who is a Royalist officer, is lodging in a garret at Sacheverell's, and makes love to Lucy, who receives his suit coldly. Lovelace enters in the disguise of a pedlar; and, soon revealing himself, explains that on the King's service he has been spying out Cromwell's camp. Presently, assuming his uniform, he completely dazzles Lucy and falls in love with her. He is called to the field; and drags himself reluctantly away. Now Hawley has learned that a certain bridge is undermined, and is prepared to be blown up by the enemy at any moment. To this bridge he sends his rival; the explosion takes place, and Lovelace is severely wounded.

Nine years elapse. The Puritans are still in power. Lovelace, crippled in his left arm, and reduced to poverty, is living in the garret, which now belongs to a rough fellow named Porter, who gives the impecunious poet notice to quit. Lucy, who, believing Lovelace to be dead, is about to be married to Hawley—now a Major-General in the service of the Parliament—comes back to look once more at the garret of which she has so many happy memories. She meets the poet, who, having discovered Hawley's treachery, denounces him in her presence. Hawley in vain endeavours to deny his guilt; and, the Restoration taking place at the right moment, the whirligig of Time brings about its revenges, and Lovelace's prospects are in the end excellent.

Despite the occasional inaudibility which we have above deplored, Mr Laurence Irving's Lovelace was an original, imaginative, and interesting embodiment, with a flavour of pathetic refinement about it which was quite fascinating. Mr James Hearn supplied a thoroughly effective, energetic, and able interpretation of the character of Colonel Martin Hawley, his performance being dramatic, vigorous, and expressive throughout. That safe, sound, and practised artist Mr Charles Dodsworth was, of course, easily equal to the interpretation of the rôle of Alderman Sacheverell; and Mr Clifford Bown was commendably sharp, brusque, and distinct as the stony-hearted landlord, Mr Porter. Miss Grace Hampton as the limp and large Mrs Porter was very praiseworthy. Miss Mabel Hackney gave a charming reading of the rôle of Lucy Sacheverell, the artless sprightliness of the girl in the first act—a rather difficult bit of work—being done with exquisite tact and lightness of touch, and the points throughout being made unobtrusively yet effectively. The single scene was carefully and elaborately arranged. *Richard Lovelace* was preceded by the domestic sketch, by John Hollingshead, called

"THE BIRTHPLACE OF PODGERS."

Tom Cranky	Mr CHAS. DODSWORTH
Mr Erasmus Maresnest	Mr CLIFFORD BOWN
Edmund Early bird	Mr L. BELMORE
Alonzo Lexicon	Mr A. FISHER
Photographer	Mr H. R COOK
Mortal Podgers	Mr W. GRAHAM
Amelia Maresnest	Miss ETHEL LOCKETT
Miss Penelope Lexicon	Miss DOROTHY RONE
Mrs Cranky	Miss GRACE HAMPTON

The troubles of the working man and his wife, who find their humble home invaded by a number of enthusiasts who rave about the poet whom they imagine to have been born within its walls, were depicted with plenty of goodwill. Mr Chas. Dodsworth's Tom Cranky was excellent in its dry and confident comicality; Mr Clifford Bown played Erasmus Maresnest neatly and with polish; Mr L. Belmore was easy and efficient as Edmund Early-bird; Alonzo Lexicon had a brisk exponent in Mr A. Fisher; and Mr W. Graham was picturesquely inebriate as Mortal Podgers. Miss Ethel Lockett was an agreeable representative of Amelia Maresnest; Miss Dorothy Rone sketched the stock literary characteristics neatly as Miss Penelope Lexicon; and Miss Grace Hampton was happily cast as Mrs Cranky, the part suiting her very well. The ancient entertainment created much amusement.

MESSRS. BRINSMEAD'S GALLERIES.

At the above rooms, on Saturday last, Miss Mabel Partridge and Mr Sidney W. Morris gave a successful concert, the lady being a pleasing soprano, the gentleman a baritone who made a favourable impression on a large and fashionable audience in a number of songs. The first of these was Tosti's "For ever and for ever," which was rendered with considerable expression. Mr Morris afterwards sang "The Perfect Life," and joined Miss Partridge in Balfe's popular duet, "Excelsior," which pleased the audience greatly. But the best effort of the baritone was in a song of no great merit in itself, "There's a friend for little children," the sentiment of the song being well carried out by the singer, who has a voice capable of being used most effectively. This was fully recognised by the large and enthusiastic audience, Miss Mabel Partridge sang "My Kingdom," "The Fadeless Meadows," and "Daffodil Days." Some pupils of the London Conservatoire appeared, and Mr Lansdowne Cottell was one of the conductors, and rendered great assistance in that capacity. Vocalists are apt to ignore the accompanist, but the ready help and tact of an experienced musician often proves of the greatest value. Among the best items of the concert may be mentioned the brilliant violin playing of Master Leopold Lustig, who, although only eleven years of age, performed De Beriot's 1st Concerto in admirable style. Another clever violinist was Miss Mabel Charter, whose rendering of the Polonaise of Vieuxtemps was in every way satisfactory. Miss Margery Hamlyn recited "The Banshee," but the effect was marred by an unfortunate lapse of memory. Miss Agnes Ingreville succeeded in amusing her auditors in a monologue called "Stewart Moore." Others who assisted in accompanying were Herr Hoffstein, Mr Harold Claxton, and Madame Bussell, and Miss Murielle Leroy opened the proceedings with a pianoforte solo.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT-GARDEN.

Madame Melba last Saturday night gave an interpretation of Gounod's Marguerite, in *Faust*, that has rarely been equalled and never surpassed. The mellow sweetness of her tones and the delightful finish and perfection of her execution of Gounod's music, especially of the "Jewel Song" in the Garden scene, roused the full house to extraordinary enthusiasm and demands for the repetition of the captivating melody, but Madame Melba would not consent to repeat the air, but came several times to the front to acknowledge the extreme warmth of the greeting. Her acting also gave complete satisfaction owing to its sincerity and charm. We cannot be entirely complimentary to M. Dalmores, the Faust of the evening. His singing, particularly in the beautiful "Salut! Demeure," lacked expression and style. But a better Mephistopheles than M. Plançon has not been seen for many a year. Both in singing and acting he was superb. M. Renaud proved himself a most competent Valentine, Mdlle. Hélian was fairly successful as Siebel, and Mdlle. Bauermeister was again a delightful representative of Dame Martha. Signor Mancinelli conducted with his customary efficiency, and all the stage arrangements were most complete and artistic, band and chorus being so familiar with the score that there were no mishaps of any kind to chronicle.

On Monday Verdi's fine dramatic and melodious opera *Aïda* was produced. In this work, one of the composer's best, the management had done everything possible to ensure a triumph, and a triumph it certainly proved from first to last. The representation also resulted in securing a brilliant audience, headed by the Duchess of Saxe Coburg-Gotha and her daughter Princess Beatrice, Princess Henry of Battenberg and her children the Princess Victoria Eugenie, Prince Alexander, and Prince Leopold, and suite, besides aristocratic visitors in great numbers, while the humbler portions of the magnificent theatre were densely crowded. It speaks volumes for the enterprise of the Royal Opera Syndicate that three new vocalists have appeared in one week. The latest comer is Mdlle. Russ, who has been singing at Lisbon, Madrid, and Milan. Mdlle. Russ has a splendid voice, capable of the highest dramatic expression, but marred for English auditors by that foreign vice the *tremolo*, which interfered with some of her best effects. Nor could her make-up be called attractive, recalling, as it did, the device of the actor described by Mr Crummles who blacked himself all over when he played Othello. Still, Mdlle. Russ has many fine qualities as an artist, and with some indulgence to our insular tastes has the prospect of becoming a favourite. Dramatic sopranos are somewhat scarce at the present day. All the more reason for making the most of singers like Mdlle. Russ. As for Madame Kirkby Lunn, whose charming gifts were first recognised in *The Era*, she has established herself at Covent-garden as a prime favourite by her beautiful voice and constantly advancing dramatic power. She played Amneris grandly, and threw herself with the greatest energy into the striking judgment scene. The Ramfis of M. Plançon was worthy of this fine artist, and Signor Scotti simply revelled in the passionate scenes allotted to Amonasro. The spectacular portions of the opera excited the utmost enthusiasm, and the appearance of Signor Caruso as Radames was the signal for a positively tremendous outburst of enthusiasm, which the popular tenor fully justified by his splendid singing and acting. Nothing could exceed the beauty of his voice or the fiery energy with which it was employed. In the Nile scene he was especially successful, and Signor Scotti rivalled the now famous tenor. They were called forward no less than four times, and almost made us fancy ourselves in Italy instead of prosaic London. Signor Mancinelli also was greatly honoured. He conducted the opera as an old friend of the composer, zealous for his native land, might be expected to do. In short, everything went well, and everybody was pleased with *Aïda* and its magnificent effects. Even the grotesque dance of the little Nigger boys delighted the crowded house. *Aïda* will be performed again it is quite certain, and whenever it is given the opera will reflect the utmost credit on the management.

The Royal Opera directors are making good use of their new vocalists. The final performance of *Tannhäuser* took place on Tuesday, when Mdlle. Selma Kurz, who recently distinguished herself as Gilda, appeared as Elizabeth, and was quite successful. Mdlle. Selma Kurz sang charmingly as Elizabeth, especially in the "Greeting to the Hall of Song," and in the fine finale of the second act the vocalist was again clear and brilliant. M. Van Dyck, whose voice has of late been frequently out of order, was compelled from this cause to hand over the part of the hero to M. Louis Arens, the Russian tenor, who, if wanting the mellowness of tone to make quite a satisfactory Tannhäuser, acted with no little skill as the hero. Herr Van Rooy as Wolfram was quite at his best as vocalist and actor, and the smaller parts were efficiently sustained. Dr. Richter conducted with rare ability, and, considering that he knows the score by heart, it must have been a labour of love to the brilliant conductor, who shortly leaves Covent-garden for Bayreuth.

Certain rigid critics are accustomed to speak of Verdi's *La Traviata* as a "played-out opera." But we are not so sure of that. A work may fall short of classic perfection, yet still have some claims to public recognition, and *La Traviata* has one special attraction which never fails in London. It is full of melodies, not always, perhaps, of the highest quality, but sufficiently pleasing to satisfy ears not severely critical. What is important also is that the music is thoroughly vocal, and when a singer like Madame Melba undertakes the chief character success is assured. The famous prima donna on Wednesday appeared as Violetta with her accustomed beauty of tone and delicacy of execution. It was impossible not to be charmed with such perfect singing, and if Madame Melba occasionally lacked dramatic force and passion, nobody appeared to notice it, the utmost delight being expressed by the brilliant audience. The elder Germont was splendidly sustained by Signor Scotti, whose fine voice and vigorous style told most effectively in the duet of the second act between Germont and the heroine. Signor Caruso we have heard to greater advantage. The popular tenor has had of late very hard work to do, but the simple and graceful phrases allotted to the tenor gave him not the least trouble, and he ably seconded the efforts of the delightful soprano. Mdlles. Hélian, Bauermeister, MM. Cotreuil, Dufriche, and others made the most of the subordinate parts, and Signor Mancinelli conducted with great spirit.

AT the Theatre Royal, Wednesbury, this week, Mr Geo. Steel's company occupies the boards in *Maria Martin*, with Mr Geo. Steel in the rôle of Clement Carlton. Mr Villiers Stanley as William Carlton and Mr Lindsay as Sergeant Coppem do excellent work in their respective parts. Mr Ernest Regent plays the comedy part of Augustus Chatterwell. As Uriah Cuthbert Mr Ernest Keand leaves little to be desired. Mr Fred Fox is very good as Jerry Updyke. Miss Lily Winter scores successfully as Sophia, Miss Kate Bruce as Mary Merton evokes loud applause, and as Betty Miss Lizzie Morley is seen to advantage.

SIR THOMAS DEWAR, M.P., who will preside at the 101st anniversary Festival of the Licensed Victuallers' Schools at the Crystal Palace, on June 28, is now appealing for donations towards that deserving charity. The schools are kept up at an annual outlay of about £7,500, and some 250 scholars receive education in them. Sir Thomas Dewar will be pleased to acknowledge any amounts forwarded to him at Dewar's Wharf, Waterloo Bridge, S.E.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, JUNE 16.—Our theatrical managers are trying to surpass one another in the way of novelties, and, as usual, M. Samuel, of the Variétés, has taken the lead. His plan is a bold one. He intends to resuscitate the operette—dead and buried now since many years—and, nailing his colours to the mast, he has officially divorced Thalia and declared that during his reign no comedy will enter the doors of the Variétés. The announcement of the new venture has created some surprise in our theatrical world, and whilst some are absolutely convinced that the operette is not capable of living in the present days, others look upon it as a capital move and likely to lead to good results. Nor are M. Samuel's arguments lacking in soundness. Most of the Paris theatres, he says, produce comedies, and a successful author is at such a premium that he cannot always be secured. Moreover, first-class artists are also becoming scarcer. But scarcer and even more difficult to secure than playwrights or artists is the public itself. With us a successful comedy after a run of a month or two begins to show unmistakable signs of weakness, and the excitement has to be kept up by artificial means. The Parisian playgoer is an erratic creature, and, according to M. Samuel, he goes perhaps twice to see an amusing play, whereas he will never get tired of hearing an operette, especially if it is well mounted and adorned with a bevy of pretty women, as is generally the case at the Variétés. And, to prove the truth of his assertion, M. Samuel refers to *La Chauve Souris*, which certainly has been a wonderful draw. In order to carry out the plan successfully the Variétés management has acquired the exclusive right for the production in Paris of the works by Offenbach, Hervé, Audran, Planquette, and others. But, in addition to the old répertoire, several new operettes will see the footlights, among which *Monsieur de le Palisse*, by MM. Caillavet and De Flers, music by M. Claude Terrace; and *Les Dragons de l'Impératrice*, by MM. Vanloo and Duval, music by M. André Messager. Among the artists already engaged are Mdlle. Germaine Gallais, Madame Tariol-Baugé Mdlle. Thérèse Berka, the well-known tenor, M. Delmas, and MM. Casella and Defryn. It is impossible to predict the fate of the new venture, but there is every probability that M. Samuel will succeed where so many other have failed.

THE Ambigu also announces a novelty for the coming season. Every Friday afternoon M. Grisier will give us what he calls "violent matinées," consisting of realistic plays by authors of the "advanced school." It now remains to be seen where the violence will come in—i.e., whether the plays themselves will be of a fierce character, or whether the audience will be roused to violent action. Possibly both, in which case these matinées will be well patronised.

THE Opera Comique will close its doors on the 25th inst. M. Carré also promises us a novelty in the way of a wonderful prima-donna, whose name, however, he has not divulged.

IN one of our Boulevard theatres the shareholders are entitled to two stalls on every first night, which is all they receive by way of dividend. The other day one unfortunate shareholder having applied for two extra seats received a very polite letter from the management, who informed him that they were delighted to place these seats at his disposal; but as, according to their Articles of Association, they could only allow one seat for every share, they had entered the gentleman's name for two more shares. The gentleman had a terrible fright, and immediately sent word to the theatre that he preferred paying for the stalls.

A CURIOUS case is likely to be thrashed out in one of our tribunals. The censor having prohibited the production of M. Delphi Fabrice's *L'Araignée Rouge*, the author decided to give a private performance of the work. He thereupon hired the hall, issued invitations to his friends, when at the last moment a police commissary made his appearance, and informed that the piece could not be given, even "in camera." The author has protested against what he terms unlawful interference, and has decided to fight the matter out.

A MAN to be admired is M. Alphonse Franck, the manager of the Gymnase. M. Roy started a company supposed to take over this theatre, and from which M. Franck is excluded. The latter, however, quietly makes all his arrangements for the coming season, absolutely ignoring M. Roy and his company. Thanks to *Le Retour de Jérusalem*, the season which is now finishing has been a very profitable one for the Gymnase, for which reason the house will remain open till July 15, a rare occurrence with that theatre. Unfortunately, the principal artists in M. Donnay's piece are leaving for their holidays, and their places will be taken by understudies, much to the disgust of the author, who would have preferred to see his piece withdrawn with its original cast. But M. Franck wants to rake it in whilst he can. In October prox. the Gymnase will reopen with *Friquet*, after which we are promised M. George Ancey's *Ces Messieurs*, wherein the priests are taken severely to task, and which is likely to raise trouble. A leading rôle will be taken by Madame Jane Hading, and M. André Calmettes will impersonate the Bishop. Next on the list comes M. Bernstein's comedy, *La Dette*. All this sounds very promising, but supposing M. Roy were after all to win his action and secure the Gymnase, all these plans would fall to the ground.

AT the Gaîté the great novelty next season will be M. Edmond Rostand's new piece, with, of course, M. Coquelin in the chief part.

AT the last committee meeting at the Comédie-Française, at which most of the Sociétaires were present, it was decided not to engage either M. Huguenet nor M. Lérand. The reasons given were that M. Huguenet's demands were too high, and that there were no rôles for M. Lerand. The committee's decision is very much to be regretted. The before-mentioned gentlemen are artists of a very high order, and would have proved a splendid acquisition to the house. But MM. Les Sociétaires labour under the impression that all the necessary talent is already fully represented there, an impression which, to put it mildly, is a mistaken one. On the other hand, M. Grand, a capital young actor, has been engaged, but will not join before January next.

Speaking of the Comédie-Française, M. Claretie has at last put a stop to the wholesale exodus of the Sociétaires during the summer months. These artists used to go starring in the provinces, leaving the House in possession of the "juveniles," and causing the public to grumble. With the exception of Madame Weber and M. Albert Lambert no permissions to leave have been granted to anyone.

A SITTING was held in the Bankruptcy Court, on the 10th inst., for the public examination of Harry Kent, clerk, of Belgrave-square, S.W. The accounts showed liabilities £50,959, of which £40,607 is expected to rank, and available assets £7,848. The Debtor was recently employed by a firm of merchants, his salary latterly being £1,500 a year. In 1901, he became interested in various commercial undertakings, and in April, 1903, took part in a syndicate known as Productions (Ltd.), formed for the purpose of running theatrical ventures and producing plays. He borrowed large sums of money in connection with the syndicate, and become personally liable for the rent of the Savoy Theatre. He attributed his failure partly to losses, amounting to £18,056 since April, 1901, by speculating for differences on the Stock Exchange, to heavy interest, estimated at £8,120, during the same period on borrowed moneys, and to loss in connection with theatrical ventures. The sitting was adjourned to July 22, to enable the accounts to be investigated.

MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

MR HORACE MARRIOTT, the secretary of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, begs intending competitors for the sports on July 5 next, to send in their entries at the earliest possible moment. Monday, the 27th, is the very last day for the return of entries; but the secretary hopes—in view of the vast amount of work entailed by verifying previous performances, starts, &c., for the handicapper—that he may receive the bulk of the entries several days before the final date. As there are usually between 300 and 400 entries each year, the extent of the work can be easily imagined. Intending prize-givers will also confer a favour upon the secretary by sending in their prizes or sports donations with as little delay as possible. It is, of course, only by united action that such a big undertaking as the Music Hall Sports can be successfully carried out.

THE handicapping for the sports was formerly entrusted to a committee, but for many cogent reasons the responsibility last year was shifted to the shoulders of Mr R. P. Watson, who has, since the establishment of the carnival, acted as referee. What Mr Watson does not know about athletics is not worth knowing, and as he is without fear or reproach, his judging of the merits and form of candidates invariably commands respect. Mr Watson has also been chosen as the official handicapper for the Theatrical Sports, which take place on June 28.

WE are continually reporting in our columns the changes made from theatrical to variety fare in provincial houses, and it seems to us that borough and town councils, in allowing this, are anticipating the day of absolute free trade in amusements. The bill introduced by Captain Jessel is specially drafted to legalise the production of sketches of a certain length and with a certain number of characters, and does not touch the broader issue; but surely it is time that no licensing bonds should fetter theatrical or music hall proprietors, and prevent them offering what attractions they please under proper regulations. The Lord Chamberlain forbids smoking in the auditorium of the houses licensed by him, and the L.C.C. favours this prohibition by insisting on it in theatres under its jurisdiction in the outer metropolitan area. Thus a proprietor with large capital at stake, whose solvency depends on his attracting the public, is grooved and restricted. If he finds that melodrama without smoke does not pay, he is not allowed to try the alternative. In the service of the great British public there should be perfect freedom, and were a broader view of licensing responsibilities taken by the Lord Chamberlain and the L.C.C. we are satisfied that the sketch trouble would vanish into thin air.

MEANWHILE, music hall proprietors have to do their best to grapple with a difficulty that was bound, under present licensing conditions, to crop up sooner or later, and the simplicity of the bill introduced by Captain Jessel is very commendable, though we question the wisdom of the time limit, in view of the length of the ballets at the Empire and Alhambra. There is, unfortunately, no chance of the measure becoming law this session; but it will cause discussion as to the absurdity of allowing a law passed in 1843 to regulate the government of a modern variety palace. The bill is backed by the following M.P.s:—Mr W. F. Smith, member for the Strand; Sir George Fardell, who was a famous chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee of the L.C.C.; Dr. Macnamara, member for Camberwell; Major Jameson; Messrs T. P. O'Connor, W. Crooks, and Shackleton.

THE nineteenth anniversary of the Paragon, otherwise known as the Empire of the East, is announced for Thursday evening next, when the current attractions will be largely added to. Mr Charles Beecham will make a feature of the decoration of the auditorium, and there will be the customary display of electricity and horticulture in the vestibule. The night will be quite a festive one, and we may expect to see a large gathering of folks prominent in the variety world.

THE Rats' up-river outing drew a party of about 120, and the fraternity followed much the same route as that adopted by the Terriers. As is usual on the Sunday before Ascot the Thames was visited by a gay throng, and the weather being delightfully fine, the stream was alive with craft throughout the afternoon and evening. The time passed merrily on board the launch, and when passing under Windsor Bridge a well-known acrobat stood on his head while his companions sang the Rats' ode. The Two M'Naughtons and Miss Alice Lloyd journeyed from Leeds to attend the outing, afterwards returning to Bradford, where they appeared on Monday.

IT has been decided to hold a large and representative meeting at Queen's Hall during the first week in July to urge upon the Government the need of their assistance to save the Musical Copyright Bill from becoming quite inoperative. Among those who have promised to be present are some of the leading composers and vocalists, the representatives of the great publishing houses and the retail trade, and a number of persons interested in or dependent on the preservation of the music industry. In addition, several members of Parliament will speak, and a resolution embodying the views of the meeting will be proposed.

IT is of interest to mention that the Hahn-Jagelsky collection of Bioscopic pictures of Russian troops, &c., now being exhibited at the Palace Theatre, were taken as historical records, by the instruction of his Majesty the Czar. They are published under two strict conditions, firstly, the payment of royalty to the Russian Red Cross Society; and, secondly, that no copies of the films shall be imported into the Czar's dominions.

MR FRANK BERTRAM, who is appearing at the Holloway Empire this week, in his sketch, *The Chaperone*, mentions a horse called Throwaway several times as a certain winner. On Thursday evening Mr Bertram received a note at the stage-door thanking him for his tip, the writer having backed the horse. Looking through the evening paper imagine Mr Bertram's surprise to find that Throwaway had won the Gold Cup at Ascot at 20 to 1. Throwaway is in the original script, and, strange to say, Mr Bertram was not aware that a horse had been named Throwaway.

LAST Sunday night saw the closing, for the present, of Bostock's marvellously successful show at the Paris Hippodrome. Charles Miller was out of the bill from a terrible mauling by one of his Bengal tigers. Madame Morelli had a difficult task with her jaguars, and "Prince," the worst member of her troupe, was in a particularly "nasty" mood. Her reckless daring was duly recognised at the end of her act by a magnificent bouquet of roses. Herman Weedon's pets were all evidently excited by the admission of a fine lion. Weedon's patience and endurance were rewarded with shouts of applause.

TOWARDS the end of the performance Mr Bostock's French manager stepped into the arena and thanked the audience for their patronage. Bostock has made a host of friends in Paris, and deserves all the popularity he has achieved. He is a good showman, kind to his trainers, and humane to his animals. He has £30,000 put away to his account in the Bank, and, after Barnum and Bailey, he has made more money in Paris than any other entrepreneur. Bostock, by the way, has never needed a claque. In Paris this is astonishing, as the claque master is a person to be propitiated at the first opportunity.

MR OSWALD STOLL, representing the Manchester Hippodrome and Ardwick Empire, Limited, owners of the handsome new theatre of varieties at the corner of Hyde-road and Higher Ardwick, was the applicant for a dramatic licence at a special meeting of the Manchester Watch Committee on the 9th inst. Mr Gibbons, who represented the applicant, stated that the building (exclusive of land) had cost £30,000, and would hold 3 000 people. Mr Stoll would give an undertaking not to sell drink. There was a strong clerical opposition to the licence. Canon Nunn, who headed a long line of witnesses, contended that the licence was not required; the Rev. J. B. M'Govern had not been to "such places," but "hearsay was knowledge." The committee, after a private deliberation of half-an-hour, adjourned the application for a week.

THE Circus of Varieties at Rochdale is now closed for the season. Plans have been submitted by a well-known firm for the erection of a new building estimated to accommodate 2 700 people. Special consideration has been given, in the plans, to make the premises comfortable and cosy, and they will be fitted with electric light and the latest up-to-date improvements.

MR W. GOODWIN WOODWARD, the popular acting-manager of the Palace, Northampton, takes a complimentary benefit on Friday next, when extra turns will be put on, including Miss Florrie Leoville, lady jester, for some time proprietress of the Empire in the town.

THE sixpenny collection on behalf of the widow and children of the late Jean Stanley will close next week. Any outstanding collections should be forwarded as early as possible, addressed to Mrs Stanley, care of Mr H. Klockenbusch (M.H.A.R.A. agent), Alexandra Hotel, Southend-on-Sea. The acknowledgements of the same, together with particulars, will be published in our next issue. The committee meets on Sunday at 11·30 a.m.

MR MICHAEL NOLAN, who has just concluded twenty-two weeks' tour with Messrs Moss and Stoll, should appear next Monday at the Stoll Hippodrome, Manchester, but as that establishment is not quite ready, he and his wife (Miss Agnes Hazel) intend spending the week at Blackpool, where for the past three years they have found the fine air of great benefit. By the way, Mr George Barclay, the agent, has sent Mr Michael Nolan £1 to add to his list for the widow of the late Jean Stanley.

THE report of the Tivoli, Manchester, shows that the net profit for the year, after payment of interest on mortgage, making a liberal allowance for depreciation, writing off the balance of the cost of redecorating the theatre in 1901, and all other expenses, is £5,228. To this amount has to be added the sum of £998 brought forward from last year, making a total amount for distribution of £6,227. The directors paid an interim dividend in November of 4 per cent. for the six months, leaving a balance, now for distribution, of £4,800. It is proposed to pay a final dividend of 6 per cent. for the half-year ended April 30 last, making the distribution for the year at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum.

BUXTON, the charming capital of the Derbyshire Peakland, is, to its credit, keeping abreast of the times as regards its worship of the "divine art," for, as will be seen in our advertising columns of to-day, in addition to the celebrated orchestra of Mr De Jong, which performs daily in the gardens, a new musical organisation has been formed, under the title of the Devonshire Minstrels and Al Fresco Entertainers, comprising a bijou band of instrumentalists, high-class vocalists, and variety entertainers. Although the minstrels will perform in the open air the character of the organisation will be under the auspices of the town council. The management will be in the hands of Mr W. Ross Cattanach, proprietor of one of the leading hotels, himself an old-time artiste of experience and repute, a fact that should ensure for the visitors to Buxton programmes of artistic excellence.

HERMANN WEIGHELT, a lightning picture painter, of the Abdel-Kadir Trio, sued the management of the Blackpool Winter Gardens last week for the sum of £10, alleged to be the amount due for three days' salary. His Honour, in deciding in favour of Mr Huddlestone, manager of the Winter Gardens, said that it was perfectly clear to him that Mr Kaczka, the agent acting for the plaintiff, signed a document stipulating that the £20 paid was for nine days and not a week. That put an end to the case, although it was obvious that the mistake arose through there being two documents—one stating £20 per week, and the other £20 for nine days.

LYNN, the original singing newsboy, through a severe chill, caught whilst returning on Saturday night after his engagement at the Hippodrome, Salford, has been prevented from appearing at the Metropole, Manchester, all this week. He is, however, rapidly getting better, and hopes to be well enough to sing in his popular scena *From Streets to Stage* on Monday at the Grand, Doncaster.

THE Tally Ho! Trio, who sing so sweetly in concerted pieces, have another laughing success in *The Three Buttercups*, an original comedy operetta, by Charles Osborne, the well-known song-writer. It was a tremendous hit at the Grand, Clapham, and Euston on its first production on Monday. The well-known trio are engaged in pantomime at Brighton.

MR WILL EVANS will, in the near future, produce a new comic song, "Advice to Single Girls," which has been cunningly contrived so as to fit either dame or low comedian when pantomime time arrives. J. Airlie-Dix is responsible for the music.

BY the kind permission of Mr Frank Macnaghten, Mr Walter Lapworth, the acting-manager of the Pavilion Theatre of Varieties, Leicester, took his first benefit on Friday. During an interval in the second house, Mr Joe Lawrence, stage-manager, appeared on the stage, at the request of the visiting artists and friends, to present Mr Lapworth with a gold watch, which had been subscribed for by them as a mark of esteem, and also with a gold chain and pendant on behalf of the entire staff. No working staff, Mr Lawrence said, could have a more considerate manager, and the *camaraderie* that existed throughout the establishment was a most healthy sign of the happy state of things at the Pavilion. The bénéficiaire thanked Mr Lawrence very much for the kindly feelings he had expressed towards him, and the audience sang "For he's a jolly good fellow."

THE magistrates granted an hour's extension, which enabled Mr Lawrence to put no less than thirty-six turns on during the second house. The artistes who appeared included Harry Wright, Miss Nellie Gannon and her daughters, the Sisters Pacey, who are all big favourites here, and happened to be at home in Leicester for their summer holidays; Sam Torr, another Leicester favourite; Eva Johnson, the Three Artells, Mark Leslie, the Weirs, Flo Challis, Maudie Vera, the Steinway glee-singers, the O'Malleys, Martino, the Gracios Trio, a very clever troupe of young lady acrobats; Tom Griffiths, Nellie Dunbar, Bill and Bill, J. W. Rayson's Imperial Bioscope, showing an enjoyable series of animated pictures; Harry Hampson, W. England, Miss Queenie Till, Miss Mabel Countee, Wal Tillson, Miss Madge Wood, Professor Swingler, a clever magician; Will Jarman, Charles Ball, Miss Alma Lee, Miss N. Gahigan, Walmore and Vince, Bessie Knight, the Brothers Dodge, Hignett, and T. Jarvis.

MR DAVID DAY will be glad to receive any votes for the London Orphan Asylum on behalf of Harold William Allan, son of the late Ernest Allan, whose lamentably early death left his young family unprovided for.

THE testimonial which Mr Fred Miller is getting up for Messrs Hayward and Strudwick, the two Surrey cricketers who performed such notable work in Australia, is postponed.

MR JOHN HOTINE (John Robertson), world-famed as a dog performer, died on Tuesday, the 14th inst., aged sixty-four years, at his residence, 51, Brisbane-street, Camberwell-green. The deceased will be buried on Monday next at Nunhead Cemetery. The funeral arrangements will be in the hands of Mr Theophilus Dunkley.

THE outing of the staff of the South London Palace, which it had been arranged should take place on Sunday week, June 26, has been postponed in view of the serious illness of Mr Frank Weeks.

WE are pleased to be able to state that, although Mr Frank Weeks, the manager and secretary of the South London Music Hall, is still confined to bed in consequence of an attack of bronchitis, he is at the present moment progressing satisfactorily. A little over a week ago his condition caused the gravest anxiety to his medical advisers, and we understand that he will not be able to leave his room for a week or so.

MISS ALICE YORKE, the clever and charming wife of Mr C. Blyth-Pratt, the courteous acting-manager of the Oxford, will produce at that house on Saturday a new duologue, entitled *A Yacht on Sale*. She will be supported by a popular actor well known in the best West-end theatres.

MR ALFRED BUTT had settled upon a very unconventional form of advertisement for the booming of La Belle Tortajada, now performing at the Palace, by placing a bust of the dark-eyed Castilian above each bill announcing her engagement at the Shaftesbury-avenue house; but the Commissioners of Police interfered, and the prospects of an original and ingenious mode of public announcement have been for the present spoilt. We wonder if any objection would be raised to the bust itself—without any printing matter—being placed on the London hoardings.

MR ALFRED CHARLES KENDRICK has been appointed manager of the Cambridge Music Hall, succeeding Mr Ernest Abbott in that position. Mr Kendrick is well known to and very popular with the East-end folk, and he has fulfilled the duties of secretary at the Commercial-street hall for three and a half years.

MR C. E. HOWELLS, the talented musical director of the South London Palace, is at present busily engaged on a one-act opera, entitled *A Gentleman in Black*, of which he is writing the libretto and composing the music. The work is intended for production in the halls.

MR PAT DOHERTY, the Irish M.P., who has just returned from a trip on the blue waters of the Mediterranean, is engaged by Mr George Davey to appear on Monday in a grand revival of Boucicault's great Irish drama *The Colleen Bawn*. Mr Doherty, who is a very popular Islingtonian, will give his speciality, and we anticipate for him an exceedingly warm welcome.

THE directors of the Chelsea Palace, in presenting the balance-sheet at April 30 last, state that the net profit for the period ended that date, after providing for interest on the mortgage and debentures, amounts to £4 340. In November last an interim dividend of 4 per cent. (less income-tax) was declared. The directors now recommend the payment of a further dividend of 6 per cent. (less income-tax) for the period ended April 30, making 10 per cent. for the year.

THE 359th meeting of the executive committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr Charles Coborn presiding. The hon. treasurer's financial statement for May was submitted, and on the proposition of Mr G. H. Smythson, seconded by Mr Harry Mountford, was passed as read. Mr F. C. Hall, of the Red Lion Hotel, Chatham, was appointed as agent in that town, and Mr J. W. Coffee, of the Gardeners' Arms, Rudyard-street, North Shields, was also elected. The secretary reported that twenty-two new members had joined during the past week, making the total number enrolled since the commencement, 10 361.

MISS GLADYS MAVIUS has scored a sterling success in the provinces with the "taking" lyric "If all the world says 'No,'" which is from the joint pens of Messrs John P. Harrington and Henry E. Pether. The song, which is published by Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter, should, for the haunting tunefulness of its melody alone, be a first favourite with pantomime "boys" next Christmas.

AT the London Pavilion on Monday, July 4, there will be instituted for the first time in town a series of walking competitions on an ingeniously-devised mechanical track invented by Letta, of the well-known combination of Letta and Minni. The latter, who is the world's lady champion pedestrian, will nightly walk a quarter of a mile against time, and will further challenge all comers on the revolving track, by means of which the exact distance covered and the time are recorded. Walkers who fancy themselves for speed will have a nightly opportunity of proving their quality.

MISS LOUISE WILLIS, who was specially engaged by Mr Arthur Collins for the part of principal boy in his last Christmas production—*Humpty Dumpty*—at Old Drury, is making her first appearance on the English variety stage at the South Shields Empire.

MR HORACE WHITE, the only one of our music hall ventriloquists who plays the piano during his stage performance, has for the past ten weeks been suffering from an attack of bronchial pneumonia and pleurisy. He is now on the road to complete convalescence, and hopes to resume his professional duties in the course of a few weeks.

MR GEORGE W. PERRY, who presides over the Oxford box-office, has been rather seriously ill, and has had to undergo a slight operation. He is now well on the road to recovery, and is recuperating at Sandown, in the Isle of Wight. He will very shortly return to his duties.

MISS CASSELLI, whose Mexican terriers are making such a hit in their performance at the Alhambra, has been all her life on the stage. When two years old—in 1870—she appeared at Drury-lane as La Patrie, the baby velocipedist, in Mr F. B. Chatterton's Christmas production, *The Dragon of Wantley; or Harlequin Old Mother Shipton*. The Vokes Family were the stars on the bill, but the event was also interesting because it was the first time a girl had appeared in public in a trick bicycle act. A few months later La Patrie appeared at the Olympic, New York, as Little Venus, and she was associated with her brother, who was known as Young Adonis. After giving up cycling the young performer went in for rope-walking and trapeze work; but dog training now occupies her sole attention. Miss Casselli is the daughter of Casselli, a famous wire-walker in his day. The largest of her pets—who are all of them most intelligent and amiable little creatures—weighs only 5lbs.

THE barring clause action of Leamore v. Moss Empires, which was fixed for the 14th inst., has been postponed till Tuesday next in the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice.

THE staff of the London Pavilion will have their outing to-morrow (Sunday), the rendezvous this year being Tunbridge Wells. During next week the cricket team will meet an eleven of the Canterbury.

THE Charing-cross-road establishment of Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter will be entirely closed to-day (Saturday), Monday being the day of publication of the firm's "Twenty-third Song Annual" and "Twenty-third Dance Album."

MR JESSE BURTON was taken very ill last week in North Shields, and the doctors ordered his removal to the Tynemouth Infirmary, where on Monday he underwent a serious operation. He is now progressing very favourably. His wife, Miss Lily Marney, cannot speak too highly of the kindness and attention of the matron and nurses of the above establishment.

MR E. S. VINCENT, who has played the heavies in Mr John Lawson's productions for the last seven and a half years, has, after seven weeks' illness at home and fourteen weeks in St. Bartholomew's Hospital, at last arrived at the R. N. Consumptive Hospital, at Ventnor, and is experiencing great benefit. He hopes to start business again on Aug. 1.

MR HORACE MARRIOTT, the secretary of the M.H.B.F., has received a cheque for £5, pence box collection from Mr A. W. Matcham, of the Empire Palace, Birmingham, and £2 7s. from Mr Edward Foster, of the Bordesley Palace, Birmingham. The President and committee beg to thank these gentlemen for their continued assistance, which is much appreciated.

AT West London Police-court, on Tuesday, David Barnett Warwick, thirty-one, music hall manager, of Hereford House, Ardville-road, Brixton, surrendered to his bail to answer the charge of stealing £144 17s. 2d., belonging to the Granville Theatre of Varieties (Limited), Walham-green. Mr Herbert Campbell, comedian, stated that he was chairman of the company, and it was entirely through his recommendation and influence that the accused, who was son-in-law to an old friend of his, was appointed manager. The prosecution had been delayed out of respect for defendant's father-in-law and relations. He knew the defendant's father-in-law twenty-five years ago, when he was part owner of the Theatre Royal, Liverpool, where he (Mr Campbell) played in his first pantomime. The accused, having reserved his defence, was committed for trial.

A REMARKABLY fine series of new Bioscope pictures, dealing with the war in the Far East, was shown for the first time on Monday evening last at the Palace. The views, which are certainly unique of their kind, are the only ones that have yet been photographed by the special permission and authority of H.M. the Czar of Russia. They open with a review of sharpshooters by the Czar at Tsarkoe-Selo Palace, followed by an exceptionally good film depicting his Majesty taking the Sacrament at an open-air Mass, and, a little later, watching the benediction of the Russian flags. Not less interesting is the scene showing the march past of the troops and the Czar drinking the health of his gallant soldiers previous to their departure for the front. Another picture, which is described as "The last review in May in front of the Winter Palace," is particularly clear and well-defined, and affords some evidence as to the excellent manner in which the Czar's troops have been trained and disciplined. Fine, well-set-up, hardy fellows they look, thoroughly prepared for the hard work and trying experience of the campaign upon which they have entered.

CONSIDERABLE pains must have been taken by Gaumont Company's operator in successfully snapshotting the arrival of the Chemulpo heroes, and the inspection by the Czar of the crews of the warships Varyag and Korietz, the two vessels which were sunk by the Japanese outside Port Arthur. Other admirable Bioscopic reproductions are those representing the Royal cortege as it passes before the troops and the Imperial review of Russian regiments. Very distinct are the likenesses of the Czar and his staff. The Palace management is to be congratulated on having secured such fine examples of cinematographic art.

THE grand matinée which took place on Thursday in last week at the Chelsea Palace, in aid of local charities, was a great success. The following were among the artistes who appeared:—J. Leslie, Albert Christian, My Fancy, Cyril Carle, Kate Cohen, Amy Clevere, Marie Lloyd, Lionel Ivamy (accompanied by the Rev. Dr. Collisson), George Bohee, the Smythsons, Dolly M'Calla and her sister, Louise Zeitlin, Harry Atkinson, Brothers Griffiths, Richard Green, Harry Tate, the Serenaders, and the Emlyn Jones Quartet. The stage was under the direction of Messrs Adolf Tressider and Ernest De Bucl. Mr Edward Swanborough and Mr Harry Bawn worked hard in the cause of charity, as was ever their wont. One of the features of the entertainment was the superb rendering by the orchestra of Mr Angelo Asher's new "Cadogan March," conducted by the composer, who has dedicated it, by permission, to the Earl Cadogan.

THE river outing of the Terriers on Sunday was the greatest success on record. No less than seventy-two of the fraternity and their friends formed the party, and were capitally provided for by Mr J. F. Lidle, of Walworth-road. The evergreen Walter Norman was in the best of form, and the music was well supplied by Mr Archie Howells, the conductor of the Parthenon, Greenwich. Mr Harry Lester, with Mr Charlie Cornish, looked well after the thirst-quenchers.

THE happy crowd arrived soon after eleven at Windsor, where the Sunbury Belle was in waiting to take them up the river. During the journey through the beautiful riparian scenery of Cliveden and Quarry Woods up to Marlow luncheon was served. On the return journey a stop was made at Monkey Island, where photographs were taken. The journey was then resumed to Windsor, and Waterloo was eventually reached at twenty minutes past eleven.

MISS ELRE SALAMBO, professionally known as Historicus, has won her way into the hearts of the Johannesburghers. Flowers and chocolates have been showered upon her, and among the pretty gifts presented to her by her admirers are a gold watch, a knot brooch, studded with diamonds, a necklace and charm, a gold-digger's brooch, set in diamonds, and various other articles. She has answered hundreds of very difficult questions about South Africa—such as the names of all the stations between Johannesburg and Cape Town; who was Dingaan? how many mines there are in the Rand; the annual output of each of them during the last twelve years; every battle and skirmish during the war; and, in fact, nearly every important occurrence from the founding of the Transvaal in 1848 to the present time.

IN consequence of the success achieved by Messrs Ambrose Thorne and Will Edwardes with Messrs John P. Harrington and J. Airlie Dix's light comedy song "If the girl says 'No,'" which is published as a semi "free" song by Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter, the same firm of music publishers have this week accepted for early publication a "companion" song to the above entitled "A girl without a man," by the same author and composer. This is, we understand, at present "free."

THE further hearing of the summonses at Marlborough-street Police-court against Mr George Edwardes and the Empire Theatre of Varieties has been again adjourned—this time until July 1.

MR HERBERT CAMPBELL, Miss Marie Lloyd, and other high lights of the profession patronised Ascot either on the Cup or Stakes day. The veteran comedian is about to depart for a jaunt in Germany with his friend Mr Peter Magnus. Mr Magnus will take the waters; Mr Campbell will stick most probably to a "cup of tea."

DR. WALFORD BODIE finished his London engagement at the Britannia amidst scenes unprecedented in the annals of London amusements. The large theatre was packed at both houses, over 8,000 having paid for admission. On the Doctor making his appearance he was greeted with thunders of applause, the audience rising en masse and cheering again and again for several minutes. The stage was covered with flowers thrown by the audience. Bouquets and baskets of fruit were also handed up. The doctor was also presented with six illuminated addresses, and at the fall of the curtain he was recalled again and again. Despite the fact that it was 1·30 a.m. before he left the theatre over 200 persons waited outside and cheered him lustily as he drove away in his motor. The Doctor, who has been re-engaged for other two dates at the Britannia, commenced his annual provincial tour at the Palace, Bristol, on Monday, to a packed house.

MR CHARLES HARVEY, the well-known and highly respected jobmaster of Islington, whose smart turn-outs are much in request among professionals residing North of the Thames, was on Thursday, at the Green Dragon, Winchmore hill, on the occasion of the outing of the Holloway and Islington Tradesmen's Protection Society, presented with a gold and turquoise ring, the thirteenth gem that adorns his whip. The celebrated whip, heavily mounted in precious metal and bebboned between each jewel, was an object of much interest at Tom Fishwick's celebrated professional house, the Prince Edward, in Parkhurst-road, on the night in question.

NEW verses by a well-known London song-writer are being added to the "Lucky Duck" song which Miss Rachel Lowe is singing with such marked success.

MESSRS LAWRANCE AND GIFFORD, the song writers, seem to be very popular just now. Four of their songs were successfully produced in town last week at different halls by Messrs G. H. Elliott, Fred Cary, Walter Stanley, and Miss Daisy Silcott respectively. The lady has created quite a furore with her song, "Is that what men call love?"

ALF GIBSON'S quaint successful song, entitled "I got the sack," by Scott and Western, has been secured for publication by Messrs Francis and Day, who have also in the press a pretty song entitled "The Peacock and the Dove," by William Hargreaves. Mr Gibson has also acquired a new and quaint song which he will produce immediately. It is from the joint pens of William Hargreaves and C. G. Cotes.

IN the Court of Chancery on Wednesday, before Mr Justice Swinfen Eady, came up the case of Smith v. Bloomfield. The plaintiffs were the trustees of a marriage settlement of William John Grimes, by which a number of shares in the Empress Theatre were settled. Grimes' interest in the theatre was represented by 12 500 debentures of £1 each, 2 500 Preference shares of £1 each, and 6,937 Ordinary shares of £1 each. Bloomfield was desirous of carrying out a combine of a number of theatres, of which the Empress was one, and for that purpose he entered into an agreement with the plaintiffs by which they agreed to transfer their holding of £27 950 for £5,000 cash, £5,000 First Six per Cent. Preference shares, and £15 000 debentures in a company to be formed for taking over the combined theatres. Differences arose, and Mr Grimes withdrew from the Board, leaving the control with Bloomfield. Other differences arose, which culminated in Bloomfield resigning at the end of 1903. The plaintiffs contended that as there was now no chance of the combine taking place there was no longer any reason for keeping the shares in question locked up.

MR MACNAGHTEN, who appeared for Mr Bloomfield, submitted that if the agreement was put an end to the parties should be put back in their original position, and the plaintiffs should repurchase the shares bought and paid for by his client. Mr Justice Swinfen Eady thought that was not so, but Bloomfield should have some further time in which to carry out the combine if possible, though it was admitted that it was impossible while the other directors were hostile. He accordingly made a declaration that the shares held in trust should be restored to the plaintiffs free from any right of purchase by the defendant, but gave the defendant a further month in which to complete the agreement of October, 1902, and ordered the defendant to pay the costs of the action.

THE Aquarium has proved a bad municipal investment for Brighton. Last year's loss was £4,571.

AT Bow-street police-court, on Monday, William Kuhrmann, twenty-seven, was charged with maliciously setting fire to the Tivoli restaurant. Mr James Howell, the acting-manager of the New Tivoli (Limited), said the bar and restaurant were occupied by Mr Scott. Above, there were a number of unoccupied rooms. The prisoner was a potman in Mr Scott's employ, but he had no right to go to the upper rooms. Shortly before four o'clock on Saturday afternoon he saw smoke issuing from a room on the third floor, formerly used as a wine store, the door of which was kept locked. There was a smaller room adjoining with a communicating door. The corridor door of the smaller room had been temporarily fastened from the inside, so that, without force, it could not be opened from the outside. After the fire which caused the smoke had been put out, the witness was informed that there was a great escape of gas, and gave instructions to the firemen. He made inquiries, and finding that no one but Kuhrmann could have had access to the room in which the fire originated, the witness gave him into custody. The accused denied having caused the fire or the escape of gas.

ALEXANDER THOMPSON, fireman at the Tivoli, said that while he was dealing with the fire he heard a loud knocking in the corridor, and shortly afterwards a door was burst open by the prisoner, who said he had used a pickaxe. Mr G. H. Dyball, stage-manager at the Tivoli music hall, said he saw the prisoner burst open the door leading from the corridor into the little room adjoining the wine-room. Shortly after seven o'clock witness was informed of an escape of gas, and found that a great quantity had escaped. On examination, he found that a tap had been turned on in a pipe under the grating of the floor. Kuhrmann told him that it was the third fire he had put out, and that on the last occasion he had got a reward of £2. The prisoner, who maintained that he was entirely innocent, was remanded on bail.

MR EDGAR BATEMAN writes:—"The wife of George Lester, the well-known song-writer, is lying dangerously ill, gravest complications having ensued after her recent confinement. As her husband is in straightened circumstances, and the lady has had to have extra medical advice, I have, with Mr Warwick Williams, sent him a contribution on the 'ready help' principle. His address is Howard House, Boleyn-road, Stoke Newington, N."

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE CANTERBURY.

The programme that is arranged under the direction of Mr George Adney Payne at the palace over the water is nightly sampled by a mirth-loving crowd of South Londoners, who positively shout with laughter at the new production by Mr Fred Karno's comedians entitled *Mumming Birds*, which has been seen at other London halls under the differing titles of *Twice Nightly* and *A Stage Within a Stage*. The fun arises mostly from the behaviour of certain occupants of the boxes of a temporary theatre fixed up on the stage, where a variety entertainment is in progress. The extempore and topical singer persists in composing verses about the wrong people, and is pelted by a terrible boy in the o.p. box; a ballad singer, most amusingly indistinct, evidently possesses fascinations for the funny individual in the prompt-side box, who is in a happy state of intoxication. Then there is the short-skirted damsel who deprecates in song and dance the doings of the naughty, naughty men; and the fun is on the up grade during the tricks of the conjuror. It, however, becomes uproarious with the announcement of the great Marconi, the "terrible Turkey," who is prepared to wrestle all comers, and who will forfeit twenty-five pounds if he fail to "pin" any opponent in five seconds. The challenge is immediately taken up by one of the troupe seated among the audience. But the laughter is loudest when the inebriated one before referred to, who has shown his dissatisfaction with the show in various ways, prepares himself for a contest with the wrestler, and eventually, after some droll falling about business, "downs" him, claiming the promised reward of £25 A general melée ensues, and the curtains close in on an uproarious scene. The chief factors in the drollery are the gentleman with "the vine leaves in his hair," as Ibsen puts it, and the big boy. A finer exhibition of the dazed condition due to an advanced stage of drunkenness we have not seen on the variety stage, and it would be difficult to overpraise such really clever work. To the smaller comedian who plays the boy much credit must be given for his smartness in promoting the hilarity that becomes general during the progress of the sketch, which should certainly sustain, if not enhance, the reputation of the celebrated troupe playing it. A particular favourite at the Canterbury is Mr Joe O'Gorman, the Irish comedian and raconteur, whose anecdotes concerning Flanagan are heartily enjoyed. His selection "Three men went a-hunting" is very amusingly worked, and then the genial Hibernian satirises the cake-walk craze in a most appropriate ditty on "bog-trotting," with just an illigant taste of a jig to illustrate it. Music and comedy are pleasantly allied in "4 *a.m.*," a trifle presented with a good deal of bustle and smartness by the M'Connell Trio, who introduce a host of favourite melodies that immediately secure recognition and popularity. We need not say that complete justice is done to them by this capital trio, who afford much enjoyment by the taking nature of their turn. Mr Ernest Shand is repeating his success here with his "Short Stories" and "By permission of the *Daily Mail*;" and that fine singer Miss Elsa Joel in her latest imitations introduces operatic airs—among them being "Robert toi que j'aime," from Meyerbeer's popular work *Robert le Diable*, winding up her most successful turn by "Home, Sweet Home." Miss Kate Carney holds a warm place in the hearts of the Canterburians, and their admiration for her talents is very genuine and well deserved. Her present répertoire is particularly well suited to her style, in which there is always the touch of homeliness that draws a responsive chord from the heart-strings of those listening to her. Miss Lily Langtry has returned full of the electric energy that makes her turn so instinct with life and go, and is heard to the very best advantage in her description of "Happy Hampstead" on a bank holiday. Miss Dot Hardy's entertainment is largely tinged with low comedy that is very acceptable; the Sisters Morgan are bright and arch in their duet "Guess little one who loves you;" Mr John Terry and Miss Mabel Lambert present a comedy sketch that is blessed with much good singing and sprightly acting; Virto plays the cornet, post-horn, and saxophone in a way that brings down the house; Mr Ryder Slone makes his mark as a vocal comedian; Belloni's cockatoos are wise and entertaining birds; and other turns include Regan and Ryan (George and Fred), amusing vaudeville artists; and Mr Billy Mueller and Miss Clara Coyne, a comedy couple who certainly deserve that appellation. Mr Fred Miller, the manager here, has won the confidence of his directorate and the public.

THE EUSTON.

Farces of a most acceptable kind make the couple of hours that one spends at the Euston a most mirthful experience. The current bill, indeed, seems to be exactly the thing for a hot summer evening, and the artistes who have been secured by Mr G. A. Payne are therefore heartily appreciated in their diverting efforts. Early in the evening we are immensely amused with the fun of *A Covent garden Ball*, in which a matrimonial newspaper is the foundation of a droll imbroglio by which a lady and gentleman have engaged the same room of an hotel in which to dress for Covent-garden. Each pawns articles of attire that do not belong to either, but the inevitable happy issue out of their temporary embarrassments is in sight as the curtain falls. Miss Kate Chard, a burlesque actress of great charm and ability, plays in the brightest possible way; and Mr H. O. Clarey, a comedian of much quaintness, makes the mere man of the duologue an amusing character. At the end of the bill is presented the clever American farcical absurdity *Three of a Kind*, in which Miss Ethel Arden and Mr George Abel head a capital company. The ruse of a young lover, who disguises himself as the middle-aged husband of another of the characters in order to gain the hand of the daughter of General Flareup, is the basis of many whimsical misunderstandings, which are humorously emphasised by the fact that the middle-aged gentleman referred to has just returned from a *maison de santé*, and is furiously jealous at the sight of his wife—a Niobe, all tears—in the arms of his "double." Miss Arden plays the tearful lady with all the necessary farcical extravagance, and raises peals of laughter whenever she is upon the stage. Mr George Abel is very funny indeed as the irritable General Flareup, and the fierce invectives of the part are given out with a splenetic force that is very effective. The young actor representing the lover is also to be complimented on his cool and easy assumption, and the company throughout is well chosen. Miss May Belfort and piccaninnies represented by girls made up with burnt cork present an effective scena entitled "Missie Daisy," of which the melody is expressively tuneful. Its charm is well brought out by Miss Belfort, who realises the romance of the verses with much daintiness. The burlesque patriotic song of Mr Jack Camp, who parodies the jingo vocalist with rare felicity, is one of the funniest items in the programme. Mr James Fawn, the veteran comedian, has a favourite subject in "Woman," whose amiable weaknesses are satirised in his song "Be careful of the dress that's full of girl" He also submits a sketch of a magistrate, who dismisses the cases before him with a light-hearted gaiety that is more often the personal characteristic of a judge of the King's Bench than of a metropolitan stipendiary. It is refreshing to watch the methods of Mr Fawn, whose quiet restraint of gesture may be advantageously copied by some of our younger comedians on the variety stage. The Tally Ho Trio are announced to present an original comic operetta *The Three Buttercups*. This is a mere framework for some amusing farcical business and some capital concerted singing, which are much enjoyed by the Eustonians. The Rales, an attractive pair of ladies, are admirable step dancers; Miss Haidee Lee and Mr Wallace Kingston are seen to advantage in "Practical Joking," a medley of acrobatic absurdity; and Mr Edgar Granville sings of "a century ago" in the Court dress of the early years of the reign of George, the farmer King. Mr Fred M'Avoy, who is responsible for the conduct of the entertainment at this house, may be complimented on his excellent setting of the farce, *Three of a Kind*. He receives excellent assistance in the front of the house from Mr Charles E. Wellman.

CHELSEA PALACE.

The bright particular star in the King's-road Palace is Miss Marie Lloyd, who has been acclaimed by joyous cohorts of Chelsonians twice nightly. Marie happens to be in her very best form just now, and what that is Londoners know full well. On the night of our call the popular comedienne, after giving "Actions speak louder than words" and "Eh, what! what!" was obliged to add another of her comedy successes, entitled "He'd something on his mind." Miss Lloyd wears two lovely dresses. A most entertaining interlude in the bill is the ventriloquial conversations of Lieutenant Travers, whose colloquies with his impudent boy and his precocious little girl are full of those touches of humour which are grateful and comforting to a popular audience. The clever polyphonist shows a thorough command of the technique of his art when, voicing the veteran of ninety, he sings "Genevieve" while smoking a cigarette. Mendel, the blind pianist, gives the audience a rare musical treat in his introductory selection on a Brinsmead grand. He then invites any member of the audience to play a melody on the pianoforte, guaranteeing to repeat it. On the night to which we are now alluding, in the first house, Mr Angelo Asher, the clever conductor of the orchestra, played in good style a pretty little "Allegro Vivace" of his own composition, and this was repeated with wonderful accuracy by the sightless performer, who did the same thing when a young lady played a slow movement. Mendel also introduced with great success "The Blind Boy," and gave a capital imitation of the playing of a street organ. Among the comedians of the bill a deservedly prominent place is taken by Mr Tatten Hall, who appears with considerable success as a josser huntsman—a character that has always been a favourite one with our variety comedians, having been presented both by Dan Leno and T. W. Barrett. Mr Hall is also responsible for an original idea in his "rest" song. The curtain rises on a chamber scene, with the comedian peacefully reposing in bed. The advantages of remaining there, and thereby escaping the work and worry of life, are funnily enlarged upon, and the scena wins decided success. Mr Fred Spencer, another favourite at Chelsea, has a capital number in his song with the chorus "Tooralloral." As an expressionist Mr Spencer is responsible for an amusing representation of a boy taking a penn'orth of electricity, and the amusing antics of an errand lad who delays bringing home the eggs to watch a Punch and Judy show are exceedingly realistic and droll. Miss Nora Moore, who was at one time a member of the company playing *Florodora* at the Lyric, displays a pretty face and figure, and sings nicely concerning "Dolly;" Miss Lily Morris, who has developed from a child prodigy into an attractive comedienne, has a capital song in "Make yourself at home;" and the Brothers Durant, who elect to be known as "kings of the airship," and Mr Sid Bandon, character impersonator, are the other single turns of the bill. The final item of an excellent bill is the sketch, *My Old Flame*, presented by Tom W. Conway and his company, which includes the favourite low comedy actress, Miss Gwennie Harcourt. Miss Harcourt plays the rôle of a bold and quaint slavey, who furthers the love affairs of her young mistress by making things hot for the elderly suitor, who, of course, hasn't the ghost of a chance with such a clever diplomatist of the "area." The piece is represented in bustling style by all concerned, and Mr Conway and Miss Harcourt both distinguish themselves by their clever acting.

THE GRANVILLE.

At the elegantly appointed Granville Theatre of Varieties, Walham-green way, Mr Arthur Yates and his able lieutenant, Mr Ernest A. Bridgen, as usual, this week present smartly an attractive programme. Gus Elen is the bright particular star, and he shines particularly in his justly popular ditty, "The new pyjama hat." His other efforts include a coster carol concerning the way in which a little mouse assists him in vanquishing the missis, making him king in his own castle, and a pretty little song, "It's a funny little thing is a baby," in which he relates with pride the advent of his first born, and winds up with the philosophic comment that "he is glad it's only one." In these representations of coster life and habits and feelings Mr Gus Elen is quite inimitable, and never fails to score an unqualified success. Dutch Daly, the droll raconteur, always brimful of anecdotal experiences and whimsical stories, and, accompanied by his faithful concertina, proves a welcome addition to any programme. The Five Delevines in their highly-successful comedy act *Flirtation* provide a most diverting and agreeable entertainment, and whether indulging in bursts of cheerful song, mandolin melodies, dancing, or knockabout entertainment, they never fail in their purpose of chasing away dull care and brightening the hours of relaxation. Brown and Robinson, the bricklayer and his assistant—who presumably do no work, but pass away the time in vocalisation—prove themselves highly trained and sweet-voiced ballad singers. "The Village Blacksmith," "The Lost Chord," and "Sweet Genevieve" being their vocal efforts, which are one and all immensely appreciated. Miss Leah Arden is another charming vocalist, and gives delightful renderings of "Always" and "In old Madrid." Stave, the Indian electric comedy artiste, who requisitions a dog, a lion, and a banjo, all of which are electrified and made to emit sweet melodies, and who intersperses the whole with quaint yarns and droll patter, speedily gets on good terms with his audience. Mountford and Walsh are capable and clever entertainers, and by the aid of story, song, and harmony while away a pleasant quarter of an hour. Mr George Bernard, the character vocalist, sings a song of the blind man whose days are dark, but who is blessed with a devoted blue-eyed girl who says "Daddy I'll see for you" In another number he comes on as an old soldier, who is looked upon in the light of an impostor till he shows his gallantly won scars and medals. The burden of the selection is "Who will say I've not been a soldier now." Collins and Rice, comedy artistes, give a diverting turn. Daisy Morell warbles about the actress whose child is dying, and who begs that they will excuse her playing and "Ring down the curtain," and then contributes a patriotic song "He's one of the King's Navy." The Sisters Hall blend their voices harmoniously in the duets, "Sadie, say you won't say nay," and "Father will live in our hearts." Tom Carney, comedian; Doris Lilian, comedienne and dancer; Amy Anderson, low comedy artiste; and Zaro and Arno, in their comedy bar act, complete the programme. Mr W. S. Bassett wields the conductor's bâton, and the orchestra play "Sans-Gêne" as the ent'racte.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

The gaiety of Camberwell is fully secured by Mr Jesse Sparrow, who successfully defies the allurements of the open air with a well-assorted programme brimful of agreeable items. Early among those who seek and find approval is Miss Ruby Bijou, whose speciality dancing is stamped with elegance and skill. Her various Terpsichorean impersonations are neatly done, and in the American Cake-walk she finds means to impress the spectators with a sense of its cleverness by many touches of originality and finish, the demand for repetition being all but irresistible. Great Scott, happily surnamed "The Ladder King," gains a picturesque effect by appearing in the uniform of a fireman and mounting to the top of a single unsupported ladder. At this precarious eminence he juggles with balls, spins hats in each hand, and plays a mandoline as deftly as if on terra firma, his remarkable performance winning unrestrained cheers. A merry sketch called *Jack's Dilemma* is played by the Harry Evans Trio, most of the fun being obtained by the antics of a jolly Jack Tar, whose visit to his sweetheart housemaid clashes with that of her policeman lover. The latter hides inside a harp case, and in his encounters with this bogey instrument Mr Harry Evans elicits roars of laughter. The droll interlude is finished off with a musical performance on the bells, which is very skilfully rendered by the performers taking part in the sketch. The refined humour of Miss Gwen Howard is displayed in a song of "Smiles," rendered in artless fashion by the fair vocalist, who afterwards reveals in "The Skeleton in the Cupboard" a rich vein of pathos which is capable of further development. The merry revels of the Five Delevines in "Flirtation" are again successful in rousing laughter, while admiration is still found for their leg mania feats and for a Mephistophelian dance which concludes a striking show. Mr Josh Dixon finds in the vagaries of a lunatic asylum keeper, with a wooden mallet for a persuader, a wide field for fun, which is highly relished. Another comedian of the eccentric order is Mr Alf Gibson, whose lugubrious visage serves to accentuate the humour of his droll songs. Gloom surrounds his entire personality, his smile is one in which a life's tragedy seems compressed, and his appearance is reminiscent of a funeral; but the effect on the audience is in direct opposition to his looks, the merriment which is caused by his songs "Frozen Meat" and "I've got the sack!" being spontaneous and hearty. Mr Leo Stormont utilises his fine voice in the thrilling song "The Lifeboat Crew," a tribute to our intrepid allies being paid in a stirring recitation called "Good luck, Japan," which Mr Stormont delivers with his customary boldness and vigour. An effective scena is exploited by Verno and Voyce in "Father and Son," in which a parent who imagines himself ruined is saved from suicide by the prompt action of his son. The story is told by means of a vocal duet, to the music of which every justice is done by the talented pair. Miss Ella Lane gives melodious expression to the query "Why do the boys run after the girls?" Princess Pauline is heard in "Don't it tickle your fancy?" and "The Lodger;" the hand jumping and musical performance of Letta and Minni inspire feelings of wonder and admiration; and Mr Dutch Daly supplements his piquant stories with an excerpt from *Pinafore* on the concertina. A volume of harmonious sounds comes from the Towyn Thomas Operatic Singers, who give a concerted rendering of "The Old Brigade," and for the glee "Sounds at evening stealing" win a warm encore. Juno Salmo, "the golden Mephisto," introduces himself amid weird flashes of electricity, afterwards mounting to a perpendicular pole and a trapeze, whereon he does the most abnormal contortions ever seen, facing backward with apparent ease, and literally tying himself in a knot which it seems hopeless to attempt to unravel. He creates wonder and excitement, and is the recipient of continuous applause. A feature of the evening is supplied by Miss Gipsy Woolf and her six white piccaninnies in a coon scena, called *Fun in a Cornfield*, with a special setting, and the liberal bill, which is begun by the Lannons, is completed by animated pictures on the Edisonograph. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr Leon A. Bassett, is entitled to every praise.

THE EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

A prominent feature in Mr Nelson Francis's attractive programme at the Brixton Empress is Cliffe Berzac's miniature circus, a clever and amusing equestrian exhibition that never fails to delight variety audiences. Especially laughable are the antics of Kruger, the unrideable donkey, and the efforts of the more daring of the youth of Brixton to retain their seats on his back. The revolving table also presents difficulties which they fail to overcome, though a couple of pretty little ponies negotiate it whilst it is whirling round at considerable speed. One of the ponies also engages in a boxing bout with his clever trainer, and a couple of others execute difficult tricks with apparent readiness and ease. The entire show is smartly worked, and one of the best of its kind to be witnessed, and Mr Berzac was loudly applauded at its conclusion. Early in the programme Mr Alec Kennedy, an actor-vocalist with a good voice and an unexaggerated style, won applause for a couple of entertaining songs, "A wrong 'un sometimes turns out right" and "Knights of the road;" and Woodhouse and Wells, patter comedians and dancers, created much hilarity with their "No boots" joke and other humorous side-walk conversation, their dancing being decidedly smart. 4 *a m.*, a musical sketch for which the M'Connell Trio were responsible, was a cleverly-arranged vocal interlude that won deserved favour. Entirely composed of familiar songs, it forms an amusing and novel item, the acting and singing of the M'Connells being throughout most praiseworthy. Mr Ben Albert is fortunate in the possession of a couple of really funny songs, "Three Blind Mice" and "Ha! Ha! Ha!" and the humour they contain was brought out to the fullest extent by the quaint and unforced style of the singer. Mr Albert also indulged in many laughable remarks about the fiscal policy, and his turn altogether made for unrestrained merriment. A coon song and dance of attractiveness was given by Miss Ray Maskell, who also submitted a tambourine dance and an exhibition of high-kicking that won for her a very cordial reception. The Olive Trio appeared as three charming young damsels out fishing for men. The bait they offer is most alluring, and they consequently have not long to wait ere they get a bite. They also gave another dainty and well-rendered song and dance, and their stay was greatly appreciated. The favourite comedian Mr James Fawn has a funny song in "Be careful of the dress that's full of girl," in which he appears as a very much married man, and relates his experiences before and after matrimony. According to Mr Fawn, it is the "bit of lace" that is mostly responsible for man's downfall, and his advice to those likely to be captivated by "lovely woman" was punctuated with loud laughter, in which the fair sex themselves joined perhaps the heartiest. "How absurd!" the other ditty given by the popular comedian, also created considerable amusement, and his reception was most cordial. Rezene and Robini, "the two little birds on their perch," gave their well-known and always-appreciated humorous trapeze performance, the many funny utterances and quaint antics of the smaller of the duo evoking some of the heartiest laughter heard during the evening, his partner also being responsible for much of the mirth. Wal Robbins, "black and white" comedian, sang a humorous ditty relating to his mandolin, and indulged in many remarks of a facetious nature concerning the ladies; Little Lady Fauntleroy gave a well-worked and amusing ventriloquial act; and others appearing on the entertaining programme were Terry and Lambert, comedy couple; Kitty Clover, in a funny sketch, *Mistaken Identity*; Charles Vincent, comedian; and the Five Clevelands, in a comedy act.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

Mr Will Spearman has, after his honeymoon trip, returned this week to the Empire to resume his duties as manager of that exceedingly popular and prosperous place of amusement. The success already achieved at this hall continues to be maintained by a series of excellent programmes. Mr Harry Tate is here this week in his farcical skit *Motoring*. This is undoubtedly one of the funniest turns to be seen at the halls at the present time. Mr Tate shows a keen appreciation of the humours of the situation, and the spectacle which he presents of a motorist with a broken-down machine, pestered by the obtrusive attentions of a small boy, and made still more angry by the forgetfulness of his attendant, never fails to elicit the heartiest laughter. Mr Tate, clever mimic though he is, has never done anything better. An important engagement is that of Miss Rachel Lowe, a comedienne who is as versatile as she is clever. It was as a performer in a comic sketch that she first achieved success on the variety boards, and now as a single turn she has made even a greater hit. As a somewhat stolid little girl, the burden of whose song is "What's the good of that, huh?" Miss Lowe reveals her aptitude for presenting artistic and effective character sketches, her stage training having, no doubt, done much to qualify her for the line of business which she has so successfully taken up. The maiden in short skirts who is not to be deceived by "fairy tales" is a character that may be said to stand out in bold relief, and the lines of the well-written song are rendered in a quaintly humorous manner. By way of contrast, Miss Lowe gives "Any rags?" a song on distinctly original lines. First, in the half-light a shadowy personage flits across the stage. He wears a slouch hat and carries a sack—the ghost possibly of a rag and bone man. Then Miss Rowe comes on costumed in a curious dress, but appropriate to the title and subject of the song. The words are wedded to a striking melody, and admirably rendered by Miss Lowe. The ditty is greatly appreciated. Mr R. H. Douglas, in evening dress, gives his capital entertainment, which he calls "Past and Present." In this he introduces his realistic imitation of the ballet dancer of twenty years ago as compared with the coon dancer of the present day. Mr Douglas indulges in other amusing comparisons, and his funny "Answers to Correspondents," supposed to be taken from a ladies' journal, excite much merriment. The troupe known as the Yelleroms are responsible for a cleverly worked globe act. The lady opens the performance by propelling a globe up an inclined board and then slowly descending. This feat is also accomplished by the youngest member of the troupe, who afterwards climbs a pole held aloft by the other male performer, the latter all the time retaining his position on the globe. Conway and Leland are one-legged artists, who gain applause for some remarkable feats of skill and strength, diversified by some amusing comedy business. Highly amusing is their burlesque of a wrestling bout, and their high kicking also deserves mention. Mr Will Dalton, comedian, makes his entrance in the character of a countryman who is on a visit to London. There is, however, a good deal of natural shrewdness about this yokel, and "I put my brass back in my pocket" is the leading line in his first ditty. He next appears as a railway porter on a certain line, and the slowness of the train service is good-humouredly chaffed. Miss Eileen Douglas, a pleasing and refined comedienne and dancer, has a song concerning a certain Maudie, and she concludes with an acceptable ditty and dance. The Jalvans, jugglers, give an interesting and skilful performance, both the lady and gentleman meeting with deserved success. Law and Norman are an entertaining couple, the one appearing as a soldier and the other as a nursemaid in charge of an infant. The Sisters Belrose do well with coon songs and dances, their contributions being greeted with applause. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr A. Petersen, renders valuable service.

MUSICAL PIRACY.

At Guildhall Police-court, on the 10th inst., before Mr Alderman Smallman, James Frederick Willetts (trading as J. Fisher and Co.), 27 and 28, Newbury-street, Cloth Fair, was summoned to show cause why certain pirated copies of music seized at his premises should not be delivered up to the owners of the copyrights.

The Defendant said he knew nothing of the seizure.

Mr C. V. Young, representing the Musical Copyright Association, said, so far from the defendant knowing nothing about the matter, he had not only been seen on the premises, but actually paid the rent. On a previous occasion 73 000 pirated copies were seized, and the magistrate ordered him to pay ten guineas costs, which he did before leaving the court. He had been summoned at Clerkenwell five or six times, and paid similar sums. Something like 300 000 pirated copies of songs belonging to this man had been seized He styled himself the "Pirate King," in which capacity he had given evidence in the Royal Commission as the representative of pirates. He was connected with the People's Music Publishing Company. Seeing that 300,000 copies were seized in less than a year, and that they were printed at the rate of 15*s.* per thousand, the defendant's turnover during the time that he evaded the law must be considerable.

Detective-inspector Crouch gave evidence as to seizing 109,698 pirated copies of music at the premises.

Mr Young applied for an adjournment, to call further evidence on the question of costs, which was granted.

At Bow-street Police-court, on Wednesday, James Frederick Willett, of Clarendon-road, Walthamstow, was summoned before Mr Marsham, to show cause why 52 250 copies of pirated music seized on some premises in Red Lion-yard, Holborn, should not be destroyed.

Mr Phillip J. Rutland appeared on behalf of the Musical Copyright Association, and stated that the pieces seized included "Sing Me to Sleep," "Angus Macdonald," "Bid Me to Love," "The Garden of Sleep," *Mikado* selection, "The Rose of the Riviera," "Josephine," and "Killarney." It was alleged that the defendant carried on business at Clarendon-road under the style of Fisher and Co., and that the music belonged to him.

The defendant, for whom Mr Forrest Fulton appeared, stated that he was manager of the People's Music Company, Limited, Paternoster-row, and had nothing whatever to do with the music in question. In cross-examination, he admitted that he formerly traded as Fisher and Co. in Clarendon-road, and dealt in pirated music, but said he ceased to do so some months ago. He knew nothing of a letter produced signed Fisher and Co., in which the agents of the Musical Copyright Association were described as "organised hooligans."

Mr Rutland remarked that in giving evidence before a Parliamentary Committee the other day the defendant described himself as the king of the pirates.

The defendant—No; I didn't.

Mr Rutland—The Blue Books say so, at any rate.

Mr Fulton contended that the complainants had failed to connect the defendant with Fisher and Co.

The magistrate agreed, and dismissed the summons, but refused to grant costs.

Mr Rutland remarked that the music would remain in the hands of the police.

THE directors of the Alhambra are having the ceilings and partitions of the boxes reconstructed, and in order to render them secure against fire, they are using fire-resisting Compo Board made of non-flammable wood, which has so often been proved to have extraordinary fire-resisting qualities.

SOFT VELVETY SKIN.—Beetham's "LAROLA" preserves the Skin and Complexion from the effects of the sun, wind, and hard water. Removes and prevents all roughness, redness, irritation, tan, &c., and KEEPS the SKIN SOFT, SMOOTH, and WHITE at all Seasons. DELIGHTFULLY COOLING and REFRESHING after cycling, tennis, motoring, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully Soothing if applied after Shaving. Bottles, 1*s.*, 1*s.* 9*d.*, and 2*s.* 6*d.* each, of all Chemists and Stores, or, Post-free from the Makers, M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[ADVT.]

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

From the Scottish Round we hear of a special compliment being paid to the well-known Scottish amusement caterer, Mr W. Wilmot. "Children's Day" in Dunfermline was held on Saturday, and is one of the excellent projects called into being by the Carnegie Dumfermline Trust. Nearly 5,000 children took part in the proceedings, which consist chiefly of sports and games held in the beautiful grounds of Pittencrieff park. Mr Wilmot's newest sensation—his gigantic bantams—proved a source of great delight. This roundabout was specially engaged for the treat, and was granted permission by the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust to remain in the glen until Monday. To the great delight of the children many of the elder folks joined them on the roundabout, and several of the members of the School Board and the Trust were seen whizzing gaily round.

Hawick Common-Riding is an old institution kept up with all due state and ceremonial. In ancient days it was necessary to ride the marches, owing to the lack of fences and walls, and the old custom is preserved. The chief event is the ceremony of appointing the "Cornet," for which post of honour any unmarried man of the town is now eligible. The Common-Riding was held this year on the 10th and 11th inst. There was a feeling amongst the North of England stall-holders that fair-ground business would be bad at Hawick, but, on the contrary, Messrs Murphy state that excellent business has been done during the common-riding. The following excellent combinations were on the ground:—Randall Williams's superb show, Mr Geo. Biddall's ghost illusions, Miller's variety theatre; Sahib Leo's Egyptian hall, Mr Henry Chapman's British hares, Mr Frank Gess's champion athletes, Prince Samouda's illusions, Mr George Campbell's double-bodied calf, Boswell's palmistry, and John Chambers, the armless carpenter. The machines list included the lessees, Messrs W. and E. Murphy's Venetian realisations; Mr Walker Hoadley's four-abreast gallopers, Mr T. Day's three-abreast gallopers, Mr W. Cross's Newmarket horses, Messrs Baker and Son's twin tugs, Mr J. Wingate's bicycle track, Newey and Palmer's manual swings, filled the inner circle. The high-class photographic concerns of Messrs Walton and Kelly, the globe shooters and double galleries of Messrs Black, Sheeran, Kelso, Miller, Palmer, Matchett, Strand, Broughton, Day, and Biddall. The minor fun of the fair in the form of spinning-wheels, coker shies, wallops and bottle smashers were provided by Messrs W. Johnson, S. Macintosh, W. Slater Brothers, E. Sheeran, A. Broughton, J. Wilson, J. Veti, J. T. Cooper, W. Strand, Mrs Matchett, W. Hiscoe, T. Day, W. Harris, H. Irvin, Mrs Kelly, T. Bryan, J. Blockley, J. Wright, G. Black, J. Hughes, and J. Palmer. Messrs Geo. Campbell and Richard Whitehead, for the lessee, made excellent stewards. The weather kept remarkably fine, and business proved phenomenally good.

At the World's Fair and Music Hall, Dublin, the proprietor, Mr C. A. James, is presenting J. H. Carroll, a champion dancer; Rozelle, ventriloquist; Fred Burnand, comedian; Alice Townend, vocalist; Marcella, midget queen; and George Harcourt, vocalist.

Mr Ellis Newton is occupying Judd's New Fair Grounds, Abertillery, with his electric theatre and palace of varieties, attracting hundreds nightly. Mr Newton generously set apart one night this week for a benefit for a distressed family.

At Mr J. Orton Hayes' People's Theatre at the Carmarthen Pleasure Fair Ground this week *Truby* and *Leah* have been creditably placed upon the boards, and the acting of the dramatic company has been excellent. Mr Frank Belford and Miss Ethel Mars, comedy patter duettists, appear nightly, and give much pleasure to large audiences.

Messrs L. Gaumont and Company's "Professional Chrono," which was the only Bioscope machine to obtain the highest award at the Paris Exposition of 1900, has been selected by the United States Commissioner of the St. Louis Exhibition of 1904 as the only Cinématograph machine to be used in connection with that Exhibition.

Lord George Sanger gave two performances on Monday last on the Football Ground, Burnley, and drew enormous crowds. Record business has also been done at Nelson, Colne, and Barnoldswick during the week.

INFORMATION relating to Shows and Fairs, suitable for this column, should be addressed to THE EDITOR, "The Showman World."

THE ELLIOTTS AND SAVONAS AT DEWSBURY.

PERFORM TO LARGE AUDIENCES.

HIPPODROME.—During the week large audiences have been delighted by the performances of the Savonas. It is long since the town had such a treat as has been given by this accomplished family. The descriptive pieces have been especially praiseworthy. Their trick cycling is none the less entertaining. While one watches the hazardous feats they perform, it is difficult to believe that they are the same family that produce such wonderful and intricate music. The troupe continue their stay during the whole of next week, and those who have not seen them should not miss the opportunity.—*Reporter*, Saturday, June 11, 1904.

THE HIPPODROME.—Mr Weldon is to be congratulated upon the high-class entertainment he has provided for his patrons this week. First and foremost are the Savonas and Elliotts. The Savonas are brilliant in a musical act, and their portrayal of a storm, with its vivid representations of thunder, lightning, rain, and wind, is very realistic. Their saxophone band is also fine, and the whole is set off by elaborate stage effects. They have been accorded most hearty receptions. The Elliotts perform a daring and original cycling act.—*District News and Chronicle*, Saturday, June 11, 1904.

MR. GILBERT WELLS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The phrases "Fishing for truth in wells" and "Still fishing for truth in wells" contained in Mr J. F. Lambe's advertisements in your issues of the 4th and 11th inst., are calculated to cast reflections upon my integrity. I am well known in music hall circles in my capacity of song-writer and composer, and I have always striven to act in a straightforward and business-like manner. Simply because I gave evidence on the opposite side to Mr Lambe in the recent lawsuit Grahame v. Fuller it is unfair and un-English that he should subject me to this uncalled-for and thinly veiled attack.

Yours faithfully, GILBERT WELLS.

[We regret the insertion of the advertisements which have proved a source of annoyance to Mr Wells. Had we perceived the drift of the quoted phrases they would never have appeared in our columns. We took them to be legitimate titles of songs by Mr J. F. Lambe.—ED. of *The Era*.]

HER Majesty the Queen has accepted a copy of Reginald Allan's new "Congratulations" waltz. Mr J. H. Wood, bandmaster of the Scots Guards string band, has selected the morceau as a prominent item in the programme of music to be performed at the Albert Hall on June 21, 22, 23 at the grand bazaar in aid of the Victoria Hospital for Children in Chelsea. Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter have published the composition.

MUSICAL COPYRIGHT BILL.

The consideration of the above Bill, as amended by the Standing Committee, was proceeded with in the House of Commons, on the 10th inst.

Mr CALDWELL moved a new clause, providing that it should be lawful for a police-constable, on the request, in writing, of the owner of the copyright, or of his agent, to seize, without warrant, any pirated copies of a musical work which were being hawked about for purposes constituting an offence under the Bill, and to bring them before a court of summary jurisdiction for the purpose of determining whether thay were or were not liable to forfeiture and destruction.

Mr MOUNT, on behalf of the promoters, accepted the clause, and it was added to the Bill.

Other clauses, moved by Mr CALDWELL, repealing the Musical (Summary Proceedings) Copyright Act of 1902, providing definitions of the terms "musical copyright," "musical work," and "pirated musical work," and limiting the operation of the Bill to musical copyright registered in terms of the Copyright Act of 1842, were also agreed to.

Mr CALDWELL next moved a new clause making registration of a musical work compulsory within one month of its publication before copyright could be claimed.

The SOLICITOR GENERAL said the new clause previously moved by Mr Caldwell as to the limitation of the application of the Act, and agreed to by the House, really met the needs of the case.

After furthur discussion,

Mr MOUNT stated that, if Mr Caldwell would strike "one month" out of the clause, and insert "twelve months," the promoters of the Bill wou'd accept the amended clause.

The clause was read a second time, and twelve months substituted for one month.

Mr CALDWELL moved a further clause providing for the registration of assignments of copyright, in order to make clear the title of assignees.

After some discussion, the Clause was read a second time, and was amended so as to allow twelve months instead of one for registration, and omitting the requirement for the registration of the deed of assignment, but retaining that for registration of the name and address of the assignee.

The clause, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Mr ATHLERLEY-JONES said the public grievance was that the present price of music was very much beyond what was reasonable or fair. There was a powerful combination on the part of music-sellers, who practically dictated the price to the trade. He accordingly moved the following new Clause:—"Where in any proceedings before a Court of Summary Jurisdiction under this Act, the Court is satisfied with regard to any musical work that the reasonable requirements of the public with reference to such musical work have not been satisfied, the Court in its discretion may refuse to grant a search warrant, and where an offence is proved may impose a nominal fine, and the costs in the action or proceedings shall be in the absolute discretion of the Court." He said that the foregoing was devised in order to satisfy the growing demand on the part of the public for music at a reasonable price, and also to enable the magistrates to deal with frivolous charges.

Mr COCHRANE, in opposing the Amendment, pointed out that the price of music was to some extent regulated, and in the future would be increasingly regulated, by the law of supply and demand. Furthermore, he submitted that there was already ample protection against frivolous complaints.

Mr HARWOOD protested against the system of oppression practised by the ring of music publishers in their endeavour to keep up prices. Songs were put on the market at 4s a piece though they cost no more that 2l. to produce.

Mr H. D. GREENE opposed the Clause as absolutely unnecessary, the magistrates having power under the general law to say that they would not impose the maximum penality, and that they would impose a nominal fine. They also had abundant powers to deal with costs.

Mr SOARES, while admitting that the Clause might be improved, thought that it was sound in its principle.

Mr BOUSFIELD said that the efforts of some publishers to publish cheap music had been to a great extent defeated by the action of pirates who had carried on their nefarious trade for some time Some copyright music, however, was sold cheaply. He had a number of songs in his hand. He would not attempt now to sing one of them. But it was "An Old Love Dream," described as sung by Madame Belle Cole, and it was sold at 6d. a copy. It was, moreover, to be remembered that publishers had to go to great expense in their enterprise. A firm of music sellers had paid £800 a year to a relative of his, and also a royalty on sales, for the supply of a small number of songs each year—ten or a dozen. They, of course, ran the risk that some songs would not meet the public taste. They were, therefore, well entitled to protection, but he did not think that the House should approve of this Amendment.

The House divided—

For the Amendment	74
Against	161
Majority against	—87

Mr HARWOOD moved the omission of Clause 1, which made it an offence to print or sell pirated musical works. The whole trade of musical publication was conducted upon the principles of a close corporation.

Mr GALLOWAY was anxious to put down piracy, which was detrimental to musical culture. There was no desire on the part of the promoters to see the Bill passed in a form which would work injustice to anybody, but they wanted to give people who possess property a right to enjoy that property.

The motion to omit the Clause was negatived without a Division.

Mr CALDWELL moved to omit Sub-section 2 of Clause 1. The Sub-section made a person liable to punishment who "distributes or carries about any copies of any pirated musical work for the purpose of sale, or of being dealt with in the course of trade."

After some discussion, the Amendment was negatived by 188 to 66—majority, 122.

The Debate was then adjourned.

MR W. F. FRAME has been retained for another week at the Empire, Leeds.—Mr Tatter Hall has just put on a very original song entitled "I don't think that I'll get up at all," singing it right through in bed with very big success.—Mr Geo. Formby has published his song, "The Man from Lancashire," by J. F. Robson and Will Hyde, with Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter. Wigan will be on it to a man.

LADIES motoring or cycling in hot weather, playing tennis, boating, or yachting should take especial care of their complexion. The blinding sun, the burning dust, and other deleterious agencies work sad havoc with the refined and delicate complexions which are the proud boast of British female beauty. Ladies nowadays play tennis, cycle, they indulge in boating, yachting, and bathing, and in other ways expose themselves to the noonday heats which parch and freckle their fair faces, and it is therefore most desirable that they should ensure themselves against any harm resulting therefrom. Rowland's Kalydor has always been found a most delightfully cooling, soothing, healing, and refreshing wash for the skin.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of Brown's Bronchial Troches. People troubled with a hacking cough, a slight cold, or bronchial affections cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious pulmonary and asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government stamp around each box. Sold by Chemists everywhere, 1s. 1½d. per Box.—[ADVT.]

COUNTY COUNCIL AND AMUSEMENTS.

(SPECIALLY REPORTED FOR THE ERA.)

On Tuesday the London County Council resumed its sittings after the Whitsun recess.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that at a recent inspection of the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, it was found that one of the exit doors at the back of the pit was fastened during the presence of the public by a barrel bolt instead of by an automatic fastening which would open by pressure from the inside. In order to enable the Council to take proceedings should there be any repetition of this dangerous practice, the committee were of opinion that a notice under the 45th Section of the Metropolitan Board of Works (Various Powers) Act, 1882, containing the usual requirements, and specifying twenty-eight days as the time within which they are to be complied with, should be served on the person keeping open the theatre, and they recommended accordingly.

COLISEUM.

The committee had considered plans, submitted by Messrs F. Matcham and Co, showing certain small alterations proposed to be made to the main entrance staircase at the Coliseum, St. Martin's-lane. They recommended "That Messrs Matcham and Co. be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the five plans, dated May 28 1904, submitted by them with regard to the proposed alterations at the Coliseum, St. Martin's-lane, provided the following conditions be complied with:—(1) That the recess between the flights on the vestibule level be protected; (2) That the opening to the tea-room on the grand tier level be fitted with a door hung to close in the direction of exit."

EARL'S COURT.

The committee had considered a plan, submitted by Mr A. O. Collard, of the arrangements in connection with the side show known as "Dante's Inferno" at the London Exhibitions, Earl's-court. They recommended "That Mr Collard be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the plan submitted by him provided the following conditions be complied with:—(1) That the scenery, &c., be rendered fire-resisting; (2) that an illuminated exit notice be provided over the exit door."

LONDON MUSIC HALL.

The committee had considered a plan, submitted by Mr J. De Frece, showing a new cinématograph chamber proposed to be formed beneath the balcony entrance stairs at the London Music Hall, Shoreditch. They recommended "That Mr J. De Frece be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the plan submitted by him, provided the following conditions be complied with:—(1) that the door be made of fire-resisting material, and be so formed that it will open direct into the chamber; (2) that the chamber be properly ventilated."

LYRIC THEATRE.

The committee had considered a plan, submitted by Mr A. B. Jackson, showing how it is proposed to form a new staircase from the dressing-rooms at the Lyric Theatre, in order to give effect to one of the Council's suggestions for the improvement of the theatre. They recommended "That Mr A. B. Jackson be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the plan submitted by him with regard to the proposed staircase at the Lyric Theatre, provided that a fire-resisting partition be formed on each floor separating the dressing-rooms from the approach to the staircase, and that self-closing 2in. solid teak doors be provided to each of the openings on to the stairs."

LYCEUM THEATRE.

The Council on March 29, 1904, approved drawings showing the reconstruction of the Lyceum Theatre, subject to a condition, *inter alia*, that the stairs from the stalls and boxes on either side of the proscenium wall should be replanned to the satisfaction of the Council. Mr B. Crewe had now submitted slip drawings showing how it is proposed to give effect to this condition; and the committee recommended "That Mr B. Crewe be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the two plans submitted by him with regard to an alteration to the stairs from the stalls and boxes at the Lyceum Theatre."

TIVOLI MUSIC HALL.

The committee had considered an application by Mr James Howell for the transfer to himself of the music licence granted in November last to Mr Philip Yorke in respect of the Tivoli Music Hall, Strand. They recommended "That the application of Mr James Howell be granted; that the transfer be endorsed upon the licence, and that the seal of the Council be affixed to such endorsement."

WYNDHAM'S THEATRE.

The committee had considered a plan, submitted by Messrs Clark, Bunnett, and Co., Limited, showing certain proposed alterations to the releasing gear of the fire-resisting screen and sprinkler at Wyndham's Theatre, Charing-cross road. The arrangements appeared to be satisfactory, and the committee recommended "That Messrs Clark, Bunnett, and Co., Limited, be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the plan submitted by them." All the above recommendations were agreed to without discussion.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE PAVILION.

The keenest interest by both residents and visitors was taken in the opening of the Grand Pier and Pavilion in this town on Saturday. The contractors, Messrs Mayoh and Haley, of 12, Norfolk-street, London, have constructed a most magnificent and ornate pavilion, which experts declare surpasses any other structure of its kind. The dimensions are 150ft. by 90ft. The principal hall, being being 85ft. by 70ft., is fitted with electric light and replete with tip-up chairs upholstered with crimson plush, with draperies and curtains to match. The stage is 62ft. by 28ft., and will obviously accommodate the largest scenic sets. There is also an excellent supply of stock scenery. The dressing-rooms are numerous and most comfortable, with every accommodation. Everything connected with the place, in fact, is absolutely up to date. To crowded houses two concerts were given in the afternoon and evening, for which Mogg's Military Band was specially engaged. Excellently did they play, and the bright selections rendered rarely failed to gain an encore. Miss Maud Battagel's rich and powerful voice was heard to the greatest advantage in "Killarney," for which she was recalled. The reputation Mr George Thorne gained when with the late D'Oyly Carte still survives. Though he had never appeared in this town before professionally, he met with a great reception. After singing "Theatres East and West" he could not retire till he had conceded to the demand for an encore. He then gave in his inimitable style "Tit Willow." This week Bocchi's Milan Orchestra, conducted by Signor A. Fossadi, made their first appearance in this country, and their admirable playing on Monday was warmly received. The Gaieties rendered valuable contributions to a capital programme, Miss Edith Trew sang delightfully "Love the Pedlar," and Miss Ruby Wilson was much applauded for her singing of "Sammy." Mr Charles Conyers was distinctly humorous in his sketch *The Coming of Age*, whilst Mr Wilson James was well received for his diverting monologue discourse on the piano. To conclude pictures were shown by the Biograph, which were extremely good.

MR T. M. SILVESTER, manager of the Coventry Hippodrome, has secured a site in a central position in Rugby for the purpose of erecting a temporary Hippodrome. Arrangements are being made to open August Bank Holiday.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 9.)

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr W. J. Andrews.—Mr Henry Johnson has this week presented *The Hoop-La Girl; or, the Queen of the Ring*, which is claimed to be the latest musical comedy. The book and lyrics are by George Sheldon, and the music is by Antonius Baker. It has drawn good houses during the week. Miss Evelyn Hughes is a clever and dainty representative of La Belle Rosière, the Queen of the Ring, and her dancing is charming. Miss Edith Haley and Miss Maggie Fraser also contribute some excellent numbers, and the Rosie Rice Quartette are also highly successful, their *pas de quatre* "Hiawatha" gaining a treble encore. Miss Mary Palmer renders good service as Tilly Tinsel; Miss Edith Rowland makes a stately Duchess; Miss Bella Fossette is capital as Miss Matilda Birkins, the maiden aunt of Frank Saville, who finds an excellent representative in Mr Frank Stather; Mr Cecil H. Raymond is an imposing Prince of Felsenburg; Mr Eric Dalvere is most amusing as Major Daffney Davenport; and Mr Francis Hops is comical as Lieutenant Archibald Lambton. The composer personally conducted the orchestra on Monday.

NEW PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Goodwin Woodward.—The programme is headed by the Herald Comedy Four in a musical and dancing speciality entitled *The Indians and the Sailor*, which gains great favour. The double-voiced singing of Gerald Mount is greatly admired; Alice Coates is a good comedienne; a clever musical show is given by Harland and Rollison; Fred Curran, the peculiar comedian, scores with his clever parodies; the Wiltons are good knockabout artistes, and other turns are furnished by Rosie Ascot, "Silent Tait," Belle Elmore, and Ted Packer.

NORTH SHIELDS.

BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee.—Mr John Cassidy's *Muldoon's Picnic* company is the attraction here this week, and has had a cordial reception. Mr Edwin Garth appears as Michael Mulcahy and scores a great success. Mr W. G. Wesley is also smart as Dennis Muldoon. Mr Leo Whamboult is clever as Mrs Muldoon, and Mr Oliver Birrel makes the most of Johnny O'Brien. Mr Charles Locke earns much applause as Gussie Tearle, and Mr Gilbert Hall works hard as Doctor O'Rafferty. As Kitty Muldoon Miss Madge Cassidy is a prime favourite, Miss Florrie Mandeville is seen to great advantage as Ada M'Louchlin, Little May is very pleasing as Cora Muldoon, and the remaining parts are in good hands.

NEW CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr William Mould.—A capital programme is presented here, which is headed by the Akimoto Troupe of Japs, who give a marvellous performance. The Two Eltons, in their comedy bar-act, are received with much favour; and Mr Fred Alberto, comedian and dancer, is clever; Miss Rhoda Paul, juvenile vocalist, meets with her usual success; the Marblesque Trio, with their classical statuary tableaux, are heartily greeted; the Darrell Trio, in their musical act, are very entertaining; and the Bio-Photoscope is much enjoyed.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter J. R. Bryan.—An excellent company, under the management of Mr W. W. Kelly, is presenting *A Royal Divorce*, which is being as enthusiastically received as on former occasions. The Napoleon of Mr Geo. W. Cockburn leaves no room for improvement. Miss Agnes Imlay gives a powerful and pathetic portrayal of Josephine, and Marie Louise finds an apt exponent in Miss Ethel Murray. The minor parts are all in capable hands. The scenery and staging are very effective.

OLDHAM.

ROYAL.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr George Knowles.—Here this week the Sarnthaler Troupe of Tyrolean singers and dancers has met with great success; Percy Honri, the world-renowned concertinist, gives a good rendering of solo selections; the Patty Bros. submit a clever exhibition of head balancing; Tom Edwards, ventriloquist, keeps the house in roars of laughter with "Curley," the funny newsboy; and Williams and Brown are very funny as cross-talk comedians. Hilton and Hilton, comedy acrobats; Annie Langley, comedienne; Chummie La Mara, comedienne; and Will Sergeant, vocal comique, are excellent additions to the company.

GAIETY.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr E. J. Dexter.—A capital company is here this week, including Wal Pink and company in the amusing sketch *Peggy*. Tom Le May, musical grotesque, is entertaining; Sophie Knight is heard to advantage in a couple of good songs; and Ernie Mayne scores with his latest successes. Other good turns were given by Hugh H. Herd, comedian; Ida Dalton, serio and dancer; and Will Bell, comedian and dancer. The Bioscope concludes an excellent entertainment.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr Hulme.—The domestic drama, *The Sin of Her Childhood*, has been presented here by Mr J. A. Campbell's company. Mr Charles Fancourt in the rôle of the Rev. Alan Grey is excellent; Mr Austen Milroy plays with much power the part of the villain, Stephen Haysel, alias Dr. Grainger; Miss Jennie Hicks is capital as the callous stepmother; while Mr Fred Elvin as Barney O'Reilly and Miss Nellie Freeland as Eliza Muggins are successful in the low comedy business. Miss Fulton as the heroine is very commendable; Mr J. A. Campbell's acting as Captain Thornton is well appreciated; Little Dot Moss sings and dances very well, and also acts the part of Hannah Spry with commendable ability.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr C. C. Dorrill.—This week we are favoured with a visit from Mr Silvanus Dauncey and Mr C. V. France's company, in *Whithwashing Julia*, which has been received with undoubted favour by capital houses. Mr France's William Stillingfleet is a most delightful and attractive impersonation, full of those little artistic touches that make up a perfect performance; Mr A. Pollock is capital as Lawyer Samways; and Edwin and Bevis Pinkney find most capable exponents in Messrs W. Gamble and A. Burne. Miss Ruth Maitland makes a most graceful, fascinating, and interesting Julia Wren; Miss Kate Bishop gives a most delightful picture of Lady Pinkney; Miss Lillain Scaife is wonderfully good as the impulsive and wayward Trixie Blenkinsop; and Miss Kate Osborne is quite good as Mrs Benbow.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells.—Mr Frank Maple's company is here with *A Vision of Venus*. As Alphonzo Latherem Mr F. Lockstone works hard and achieves success. Mr Frank Maples gives a lively interpretation of Bill, and is well supported by Miss Agnes Anderson as Jim. Miss Ivy Ramsey makes a most attractive Jane, and Miss Elsie Ward gives a careful portrayal of Venus. Attractive dances and songs are contributed by the Venus Troupe of dancers.

PAISLEY.

PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile.—In possession here this week is Mr Hugh Montgomery's company in *The Wages of Sin*. Mr Montgomery submits an accomplished and carefully-drawn portraiture of the Rev. George Brand; Miss Nellie Fletcher plays soundly and gives a sympathetic delineation of Ruth Hope; Mr Cyril Austin-Lee acts powerfully as Stephen Marler; and highly-finished are the embodiments given by Mr J. W. Wilkinson as Ned Drummond; Mr Arthur Hales as Josiah Deane; and Mr Rich Vallance as Darby. Miss Lalla Stanhope plays intelligently as Barbara Dale, and the Rose of Miss Louie Davis is a more than creditable performance. Comedy is supplied in a refreshing manner by Miss Marie Harcourt as Juliana Bloggs and Mrs Charles Wood as Jemima Bloggs.

PENZANCE.

RECREATION GROUND.—Lord John Sanger's Hippodrome pitched its tent here on Monday of this week, and, despite the numerous attractions which have appealed to the public during the past fortnight, this famous circus drew enormous crowds. A smart, well-diversified programme, carried throughout without a halt or hitch, met with unqualified approval.

PROMENADE AND ALEXANDRA GARDENS.—The local Chamber of Commerce having stirred up the residents and the Council to the desirability of carrying out a programme of out-door entertainments for the coming visitor season, a capital band, under the direction of Mr W. Corrisson (late conductor of several provincial theatre orchestras), has been organised, and its performances are much enjoyed by the crowd of promenaders on the front, who also appreciate the talented efforts of the Benmar Troubadours. Songs, instrumental selections, and sketches being constantly changed gives pleasing variety to the entertainment.

PLYMOUTH.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr Percy Williams; Assistant-Manager, Mr Langdon Lee.—*The Convent Bell* is being played here by Mr Howell-Webb's company. Mr Charles Homer and Mr Howell Webb have the most exacting parts, both doing exceedingly well, the former appearing in the heroic part of Philip Vautier. Miss Maud Hastings acts with much sympathy as Margaret Courier, and Miss Bell Tilbury makes a capital servant. Miss Emily Huby scores as Christine Valgrave, Mr Dan Clifford and Mr Harry Tilbury provide plenty of amusement, and the minor parts and good mounting go to complete a successful representation.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr A. Carlton; Manager, Mr Louis Karpe.—That pretty comedy *His Excellency the Governor* is being presented here this week by a company under the direction of Mr Percy D. Standing, who himself very capably portrays the title-rôle in humorous vein. Mr Lewis Sealy adequately represents the Hon. Henry Carlton, and Mr C. W. Standing is successful as Captain Chas. Carew. The John Baverstock of Mr F. G. Thurstan causes much amusement; Mr Harold Sims makes a gallant Capt. Rivers; and Mr Ed. Roberts scores as Major Kildare. Miss Sabel Grey plays with invariable consistency the part of Mr Wentworth Bolingbroke, while Miss Joan Ellis as Ethel Carlton is unsophisticated and natural. The Stella De Gex of Miss Violet Barton-Astor receives all the pretty abandon it requires. The comedy is preceded by a pretty curtain-raiser, *The Lady who Dwelt in the Dark*.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Brothers; Resident-Manager, Mr John Field.—Grals' Baboon Prodigies provide the star turn here this week, and their clever feats are loudly applauded. Diavolino cycles round the loop in clever style. The King's Musketeers render solos and part songs which prove acceptable. Mr Victor Travis causes considerable mirth by his funny songs and dances, and Mr George Rapley is equally successful in his songs and funny patter. An amusing sketch entitled *Major M'Fee, M.P.*, is presented by Messrs Driscoll and Beattie's company. Grant and Allen prove themselves clever dancers and their entertainment is highly diverting. Mr Alf. West in the speciality "Silence and Fun;" Lambert and Glover, in farcical duologue; and Miss Maud Nicholls, comedienne and dancer, complete the bill.

PROMENADE PIER.—Manager, Mr John Higson.—Mr Sydney Leighton's Royal Bohemian players are here this week attracting large audiences twice daily. Miss Helene Cecile scores a success, her imitations being clever and versatile; Mr Chas. Browne is well received with banjo and mandoline solos; Mr M. Sterling M'Kinlay has a good voice, and is heard to advantage in ballads; and Mr Sidney Leighton is very clever in child impersonations and ventriloquial sketches.

PORTH.

POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr W. Bynorth.—On Monday Mr Frederick Jarman's company opened a six nights' engagement here in the play *In Dark Siberia*, and were well received. Mr W. J. Riley represents the part of the hero, Capt. Victor Gordon with marked success. Mr Charles Osborne is a fine impersonator of the villainous Major Waroff; and Mr Bert. H. Ross makes a dignified Col. Nevski. Miss Cerisa Ransome gives an able rendering of Paul Gregorovitch, the Jew lad; Miss Helen M'Cullough is well placed as Natalie Gordon, Princess Orloff; Miss Katie Osborne capitally portrays the character of Sonia Gordon; and the humrrous parts are successfully played by Mr Fowler Thatcher as Sergeant Petrovitch and Miss Linda Riley as Ivanova. The drama was excellently staged.

PORTSMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Bell.—We have here this week, under the direction of Mr Chas. Williams, the farce, *Glittering Gloria*. Miss Edith Stanley, in the title-rôle, is most acceptable; Mr Haughton Macaulay, who is responsible for the amusing part of Zebedee Peaket, makes the most of it; Archie Toddleby is excellently portrayed by Mr W. Champney; Mr John Campbell plays Jack James with vigour and aptitude; Mr R. S. Trelawney is a robust Col. Pasquali Gallegheri; Mr Chas. Williams submits a capital rendering of the luggage superintendent; Miss Lillian Williams as Mrs Jack James and Miss Winifred Glynn as Dorothy Kenworthy both gave clever interpretations; and Onions, the bull-dog, is an amusing "critter." *Hook and Eye* is the curtain-raiser.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr T. E. Agate.—*True to the Core* is being played here by Mr Harry J. Snelson and Miss Gladys Rees's capable company. Miss Gladys Rees gives a powerful rendering of Mabel Gratton; Miss Ethel Gray as Polly Pringle does well; Mr Harry J. Snelson is a manly and convincing Stephen Dudley; Mr Balfour Dennistoun, an excellent Captain Frank Meadows; and the remainder of the company does good work.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—An excellent programme is being submitted here this week. The Two Bees in their scena, *Hiawatha*, meet with unstinted approval; Lottie Lennox, comedienne, is in great demand, encores being very frequent; G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, is an acceptable turn; the Trapnell Troupe of Continental lady acrobats is deservedly popular; and Read and Wright, comedy duettists; Fox and Melville, Transatlantic song illustrators; Charles Ridgwell, eccentric comedian; Marie Sennett, comedienne and danseuse; and Jenny Belmore also appear.

RAMSGATE.

AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr Henry Bowman.—*Queen of the Night*, a romantic sensational drama, played by Mr James Stillwell's company, has been well staged and acted here during the week. Many admirably conceived situations occur in the working out of the plot, and these have been duly appreciated by interested audiences. Mr Stillwell appears in the rôle of Frank Featherstone, and makes a capital performance of it; while the title-part is handled with conspicuous skill by Miss Kathleen Coleman. Songs and dances enliven the drama, and in this connect on much good work is contributed by Mr Edgar Morgan and Miss Lizzie Lennon.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr W. E. Barnett.—The Leopolds opened here on Monday with *Frivolity*, and the show is being well patronised by the many racing visitors who make Reading their headquarters for the Ascot week. In addition to the Leopolds the company includes Mr John Grant, Mr Wilfred Vaughan, Mr Bert Lloyd, Mr Ernest Valls, Mr Leopold Leglere, Mr Ricardo Valls, the Brothers Leo, Mr John Kelly, Mr Levesque, Mr Gus Lenfield, Miss Ruby Wyndham, Miss Amy Hall, Miss Florrie Greensmith, Miss Gertrude Winter, and Miss Queenie Bronte, who are all clever exponents of mirth, song, and dance.

ROCHDALE.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Resident Manager, Mr Charles Clucas.—*The Fatal Fortune* is in possession of the boards here this week. The play proves interesting, with plenty of sensational incidents. Mr Fred Conyears acts with power Jack Weston, the villainies of Captain Desmond have a clever exponent in Mr J. Leighton Leigh, Mr Gerald Valentine and Mr Harry Farrell are successful as Daniel Salmon and George Thornton, Mr Percy Boucher is amusing as Tim Larks. Miss Madeline Clifford is sympathetic as Mary Weston. Beauty Glitters and Becky are in the safe hands of Miss Marie Ramuz and Miss Sybil Hammeraley.

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—Mr Fred Karno's company is paying a welcome return visit here with *His Majesty's Guests*. Mr Ainslie Burton is inimitable as Sergeant Lightning, and Mr George Hudson as Lord Essem gives a highly finished rendition of the part. Mr George Craig is effective as Mr Miffin, and Mr Charles Cardow is amusing as Mr Minks, and Mr M. Johnson is successful as Fritz. Mr Tom Manardo as Selina gives a capital representation of the dummy. Miss Eida Burman is highly successful as Miss Manley, the new woman, and Miss Nellie Moyse scores as Dolly Miffin. Miss Cora Duncan gives a delightful representation of the rôle of Lady Maude Essem.

RUGBY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Kingsley.—Mr John Lawson is here this week presenting his well-known episodes, *Humanity, Sally in Our Alley*, and Mark Melford's *Desperation*. Mr John Lawson as Jacob Silvani, in *Humanity*; Bernard Gaster, in *Sally in Our Alley*; and the Betting Man, in *Desperation*, displays ability of the highest order. He is ably seconded by Mrs John Lawson, who in the characters of Adele Silvani, Hazel Grove, and the wife in *Desperation* is natural and effective. Mr F. J. Powell as Jacob Cuthbert and Theodore Gray gives carefully studied impersonations, and Mr Bailey Cohen is excellent as Isidore De Solla. Miss Meryn is charming as the Lady Model, and the same remark applies to Miss Hood as Edith Thornton, who also scores an additional success as Mrs Gray. During the intervals capital turns are given by Miss Lily Stewart, comedienne and coon dancer; the Musical Clydes and Ovieto, the wonder.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—Mr B. Buckstone and J. K. Cox's No. 1 company had a good reception from a large house on Monday, when they appeared in the drama *The Seal of Silence*. The play is well mounted, and very creditably acted. Captain Hedley Norman is forcibly presented by Mr Franklyn Graham; Miss Gertrude Hunt is seen to advantage as Lilian Desbrooke; and Mr Henry Lonsdale makes a very fine Jack Ellerslie. The comedy element is well sustained by Mr J. C. Salter as Bimbo Britton, Mr Lee Edmonds as Sharkey Shepps, and Miss Lucy Coventry as Dora Lumley. Madeline Morrison is pleasingly portrayed by Miss Mary B. Buckstone, and Little Du Cane cleverly plays Victor. Mr Fred L. Moore as Kenneth Morrison, Mr E. S. Petley as Geoffrey Merrington, and Mr C. Arrol-Aldersyde as Dr. Mark Renwood also give good support.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Billy Howard and Katherine Harris cause much merriment by their eccentricities in the sketch *Happy Hooligans*. Will Godwin, dramatic vocal actor, makes an excellent impression; Billy Richardson keeps the house in roars with his stump speech; and Harry Barker, character vocalist; Harrison Brothers, comedians, vocalists, and dancers; Edie Anderson, comedienne and dancer; La and Do, Parisian street singers; and Delina Boba, refined and clever musical entertainer, also earn much applause.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead.—A good programme this week is headed by Juma's Octoroons, marvellous miniature minstrels; Martin, the great illusionist, gives a performance which is thoroughly enjoyed; and *A Christmas Dream*, by Lennie and Haste, is also well received. Among the other acceptable turns are those provided by Michel and Polo, athletes; Len Barry, banjo expert; Condos, Japanese equilibrists; Four Jansens, speciality act; Shingleton, the singing collier; and Pagolas, comedy act.

SCARBOROUGH.

SPA.—Manager, Mr Fras Goodricke.—The company's band, under the direction of Mr Charles Godfrey, jun., plays three times daily. The attendance shows an increase of visitors, and the promenaders have listened with pleasure to the well-rendered selections of music.

LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Waddington and Sons; Acting-Manager, Mr J. T. Carpenter.—Messrs Murray King and Clark's chief company is here this week with *Sweet and Twenty*. The play is headed by Miss Mabel Love, who in the rôle of Joan Trevelyan wins the approbation of the audience with her dainty ways and clever acting; Mr Lionel Glenister ably plays the part of Eustace; Mr Thomas Holding as Douglas is excellent; Master Willie King as Chris wins all hearts; Mr Shirley Lea's rendering of the Hon. and Rev. James Floyd cannot very well be improved upon; Ellen is played in a capable and praiseworthy manner by Miss Eugenie Vernie; whilst Miss Eva Weston acts well as Mrs Trevelyan and Mr Guy Buckland as Prynne. The play is preceded by the farce *You and I*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Hy. Mayhew; Business-Manager, Mr F. P. Morgan.—The stage is occupied here by Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr Fred C. Somerfield's company in the sensational Russian play, *A Life's Revenge*. Miss Katherine Eckhart gives a good rendering of Marcia Vittoria; Princess Vanda Ivyala is capably portrayed by Miss Marie Dagmar; Mr John F. Traynor as Paul Starovitch scores highly; Mr Percy Dawsone as Maurice Trevor is capable; and the Prince Boris Strogoroff of Mr Fred C. Somerfield is an excellent study. The remaining characters are all well played.

PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr W. Kitchingman.—Great attractions are offered here again this week. The Cairo Orchestra, under the conductorship of Professor Voorzanger, provides excellent up-to-date music. The vocalists, Madame Florence Voorzanger and Miss Brierley, sing well, and their selections of songs are appreciated. The swimming exhibitions by Professor Dickinson and troupe of lady swimmers is worthy of praise; the Watson Family, society entertainers, give a good musical act; the Robertsons have made

a welcome return visit, and are sketch artistes of ability; Rosetti is a clever cartoonist; Mr T. E. Silbey, an unsupported ladder climber, fills all with wonder; Signor Beno is a smart hand jumper; and Bert Beswick, comedian, gives an agreeable turn.

OLYMPIA AND ARCADIA.—Proprietor, Mr Imre Kiralfy.—The programme remains practically the same here.

NORTH PIER.—Amongst those billed to appear here are the De Vene Troupe of pierrots; Miss Maude L. Pugh, vocalist; Dick Williams, humourist; Clifford Hayden, in his musical sketches; E. Howard, instrumentalist; Alfred De Vene, illusionist; and Madame Corelli, pianist.

SHEERNESS.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr T. G. Transfield; Secretary and Manager, Mr Chas. Melvin.—Lovers of variety are well catered for here this week. Amongst the many interesting features contained in the programme is an equestrian novelty sketch entitled *The Riggs of Briggs*, in which the clowns Rabbit and Little Bishop play a prominent part. Cazabel's performing dogs are an entertaining item; Miss Tina Transfield enters the arena for the first time since her regrettable accident last season, and is received with a hearty welcome; Miss Elliott, slack wire artiste, is much appreciated; and Mr J. W. Hall, comedian, is also well received. The Hippodrome Pictures are included in the bill.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont. — The lively musical comedy *Little Miss Nobody* was played to a good house on Monday by Mr Frederick Thorne's company. That diverting comedian Mr H. C. Barry, as the irrepressible Christopher Potter, kept the audience in the best of humours, and the character of Trixy had a pretty, chic, and graceful representative in Miss Nellie Bowman. The fun was further kept going by Mr Willie Harthill as the Earl of Cripplegate, Mr D. Drew as Guy Cheviot, Mr Percy Barrow as Gussie Stilton, Mr C. F. Coake as Dominie Crockett, Mr H. E. Garden as the music hall pro., Mr James Jordan as Jock Jamieson, Miss Dorothy Maxwell as Violet, Miss Alma Allen as Lady Cheviot, Miss M. Tremaine as Lady Gwendoline, Miss Jessica Deane as Lady Geraldine, Miss Perry as Lady Marjoline, Miss Mabel Dent as Maggie, Miss Dora Dent as Tinie, Miss Clare Vanini as Tootsie, and Miss Lily Edmunds as Elsie.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Ramsay.—*The Stolen Birthright*, a play held in high favour by the Alexandra clientele, was acted to a large and enthusiastic audience on Monday by Messrs Charles Draycott and H. B. Peppin's company. The piece was admirably staged, the scenery and costumes being all correct, and the acting, full of dash and impetuosity, kept the house in a state of breathless interest. Mr Charles Draycott fairly revelled in the part of the bold and masterful villain, Count Marco, and Mr C. Quinton Fulford looked every inch a hero as Prince Andrea, and acted with dramatic force and manly dignity. Mr J. G. Maine did sound work as Steiane. Mr Ed. Kalhan Burke won general admiration as the frank and honest Michele. Mr H. B. Peppin played carefully as Prince Antonio, and a commendable impersonation was the Cardinal Capellarie of Mr G. Forde Road. Well-played parts were the Matteo of Mr J. H. Smith, the Enrico of Mr H. Hazel, and the Prospero of Mr T. Wheeler. Miss Lydia Donavan, an artist of graceful presence and charm of manner, gave distinction to the rôle of Miranda, and Miss Beatrice Court as Fedilia and Miss Celestine Brandon as Nita were both excellent. The "comic relief" was above the average, the songs, dances, and skits of Mr W. E. Brandon as Pedro and Miss Celestine Brandon as Nita being quite exhilarating.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. W. Young.—The charming Miss Lelia Rose, a great favourite with both theatrical and music hall audiences in Sheffield, is paying a welcome starring visit, and again delighting her countless admirers. Mr Mark Melford, another old dramatic favourite, appears in that laughable skit *Nonsuited*. Rich and Rich are warmly applauded. Selkirk's spectacular ballet wins approbation. A novel and amusing musical comedy act is given by James Stuart, and other clever performers this week are Dan Crawley, a laughter-making comic vocalist; Mdlle. Gertrella, in a graceful aerial act; and George Mozart, a funny entertainer.

GRAND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr W. C. Burns.—The company includes Hick's Clerks, in a smart act; Gordon and Preston, variety artistes; Rosie Archer, comedienne; J. H. Hawtrey, vocal comedian; the Sisters Cora, duettists; and the popular lady baritone, Mdlle. De Rose.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—Miss Kate Clinton's (Mrs Edmund Tearle) company is paying a return visit after a long absence. The favourite Scotch drama *Jeanie Deans* is being staged, with Miss Clinton in the title-rôle, a part she handles with marked ability. Mr T. W. Benson, an ideal Laird of Dumbiedykes, upholds the best traditions of the part. The David Deans of Mr H. W. Monte is a striking and pathetic exposition. Messrs Edmund Grogan as John Duke of Argyll, Wm. J. Miller as Geordie Robertson, and Ernest Lodge as James Ratcliffe, are all well cast. Miss Mary Campbell, is a winsome Effie Deans, the pathos of the part being excellently brought out. The half-witted girl Madge Wildfire is cleverly portrayed by Miss Marion Esher, and Miss Annie Gill acquits herself creditably as the unfeeling Margery Murdockson. Friday night was set apart for the benefit of Miss Clinton, when *Ingomar*, with the eminent actor Mr Edmund Tearle in the title-rôle and Miss Clinton as Parthenia, was presented.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—Captain Woodward's sea lions and seals are a great attraction here this week. Their performance as equilibrists evinces careful and patient training. Starr and Leslie contribute a diverting speciality act. C. E. Warrington, an amusing dialect humourist, achieves a notable success. Louise Willis, principal boy from Drury-lane pantomime, has made her first appearance on the music hall stage, and the hearty reception which was accorded her was fully deserved. The coon songs and dances of the Pueblo Brothers are capital. The New York Nippers, in their novel act "Bedtime," is another favourite item; and other successful turns are provided by Beatrice Renée, comedienne and dancer; Alexandra Edwin, soprano vocalist; and Jack Charman, the sweet-voiced youth.

TIVOLI.—The pictures weekly shown by Mr Ralph Pringle's the North American Animated Photo. Company are effective and interesting. A novelty amateur competition, open to localites only, is much in evidence here. Any sort of entertainment may be given, from a sentimental song to a ball-punching act, and the result is more than satisfactory. The artists under engagement include the Itram Trio, Percy Fammond, the singing collier; and Rena De Lacy, illustrated songstress.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

PIER PAVILION. — Sole Lessee, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—This week Miss Nina Cressy's comedy company is successfully presenting *The Professor's Love Story*. Professor Goodwillie finds a good exponent in Mr Ernest E. Imeson; Mr Erix Moxon as Dr. Cosens is capable; Mr W. Willox-Cadogan is well suited as Sir George Gilding; Mr Arthur Collins Rolfe takes the character of Dr. Yellowlees well; Henders and Pete by Mr John Wilmot and Mr Pat Alexander respectively are amusing characters; Miss Nina Cressy is praiseworthy as Miss Goodwillie; the Dowager Lady Gilding is well impersonated by Miss Francis Vine; Miss Ruth Wingrove is pleasing as Lady Gilding; Miss Ethel Russell makes a capital servant as Effie; and Miss Maude Evelyn is responsible for a sympathetic portrayal of Lucy White.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Owners, the Empire Theatre Co., Limited; Managing-Director, Mr W. Marlow.—Mr Jasper Redfern is here this week with his renowned animated pictures and No. 1 vaudeville combination. The pictures of the Russo-Japanese War are the most admired, and some very interesting ones of local interest are also shown. Mr Fred Hudson is a great favourite with his banjo, cornet, and whistling solos; Les Valdos are clever in their acrobatic, comedy, and musical clown performances; and Messrs Jackson and Jackson are equally as successful in their daring cycle tricks.

KURSAAL.—Manager, Colonel Blair Staple.—The variety entertainments here this week are of an excellent quality, the chief feature being "The Leap for Life" on a bicycle at an altitude of forty feet by Mr Edward Ransley. The Bioscope continues to be greatly appreciated.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Limited; General Manager, Mr Alfred Hemming.—*The Girl from Corsica* is the attraction at the Opera House. The play is well mounted, and the musical numbers are good and are capitally rendered. In Mr Victor Stevens in the part of Sam Spindle we have an old favourite who works hard for the success achieved. Mr Leicester Tunks, who sings well, looks the character of the Brigand Chief; Mr Cyril Harcourt makes an interesting Alexis; Miss Connie Leon has a number of exceedingly well-arranged dances which she executes splendidly; Miss Nellie Grant makes an excellent Lusania, her singing being of a high order; and Mr Louis Stanislaus is amusing as a French attaché. The musical arrangements are in the hands of Mr Albert Vernon.

STALYBRIDGE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident Manager, Mr H. Leighton Rooke.—This week *The Romany's Revenge* is being played on a return visit by Messrs Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company. Mr Arthur Hinton has plenty of scope to show his abilities in the part of David Renard; Mr W. Travis Green plays in a natural manner as John Hope; Mr Chas. M. Daly and Dora Hilstrom as Bobby and Polly supply the humorous element creditably; Miss Lelia Zillwood is excellent in the dual rôle of Elspie and Lilian Hope; and Miss Lydia Andre, who plays Zamet, a gipsy boy, is seen to advantage.

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr P. Collins; Manager, Mr Frank Egerton.—The programme presented this week is well up to the standard. At the head is Leo Dryden in his latest successes, "The Only Way" and "The Plucky Japanese," both of which are musically rendered. Mr Dryden's acting also is quite a feature, and his turn is greeted with unstinted applause. Cooke and Clinton contribute a smart shooting exhibition; Henderson, the blind musician, scores most successfully in his concertina playing; Milner Verren is much appreciated; the Sisters Hula are capital duettists and dancers; Adelina as a quick-change artiste is far above the average; Casselli and James are excellent banjoists; Florrie Claribel sings and dances admirably; and the Brothers Andreassen are acrobats with but few rivals.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General Manager, Mr M'Leod Loader.—We have here this week a return visit of Mr T. Morton Powell's company in the highly sensational drama *The Greed of Gold*. Harry Hood is sufficiently villainous in the hands of Mr Murry York, and Mr Walter M. Cameron renders valuable service as Curly, Hood's accomplice. Mr Wilson Summers plays with manly vigour as Arthur Errol. Mr Tom Breen is amusing and clever as Conn Creamer, and he is ably assisted in the humorous element by Miss Winnie Donovan, a bright and vivacious Patty Mayfield. Miss Edith Wallis gives a sympathetic rendering of Dora. Miss Grace St. John is well placed as Mrs Maxwell, and Miss Florrie Woods speaks her lines clearly, and is excellent as Cecil. The remaining parts are in good hands, and the piece is well staged.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs T. Barrasford, Will Sley, and F. Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. V. Carnell.—The principal attraction here is George Lockhart's elephants, under the direction of Captain Taylor, whose performances are very clever. Mr R. Dunning is an accomplished ventriloquist; the Three Gregsons cause incessant laughter in their absurdity *The Dummy*; Mr Frank Gee is an excellent comedian with good songs; Burley and Burley as comedy acrobats prove both smart and amusing; Sandford and Lyons are warm favourites as comedians and dancers; Miss Molly Doon, who deputises for Miss Mabel Moore, sings several songs in an admirable manner; and Kahn and Kahn completely bewilder the audiences with their "modern miracles."

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee and Manager, Mr Fredk. Mouillot; Resident Manager, Mr Frank Boyce.—Mr Henry Merriman's drama, *The Master Criminal*, has been presented here by Mr Stanley Hope's company. Mr George Black gives a powerful portrayal of Telford Lestage, as also does Miss Nellie Thearle of Cecile, gaining a large share of the applause. Phillip Manners and Mabel Manners are capitally represented by Mr Sydney Arnold and Miss Elizabeth Watkins, who are very warmly applauded. Mr P. Barry-Lewers deserves praise for his capable impersonation of Ben Beauday. The humorous element is well attended to by Mr Harry Buss (Tommy Dale) and Miss Elsa Brettingham (Peggy Perks). Little Marjorie Lawrence plays prettily as Winifred Manners, and capital support is given by the other members of the company. The drama is well staged.

NEW STAR.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—A good attraction has been provided here by the engagement of Mr Richard F. Symons' répertoire company, who presented on the first three nights of the week Mr R. C. Carton's play *Sunlight and Shadow*; Thursday, Mr Sydney Grundy's *The Glass of Fashion*; and Friday, *Called Back*. Each night *Bamboozling* has been played as curtain-raiser.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Mitchell.—The programme provided here for the week includes the following:—Mdlle. Diane de Fontenoy, in a series of beautiful tableaux; Ella Dean, a charming songstress; Geo. Gilbey, excellent vocal comedian; the Eight of Hearts, a bevy of pretty girls in song and dance; the Trio Jurgens, in their clever globe act; W. H. Clemart, a clever ventriloquist; Gintaro, juggler and top-spinner; the Bioscope; Bennett and Martell, a pair of quaint comedians; and J. W. Rowley, who is as popular as ever.

SWINDON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr Claude Jullion.—A return visit of the drama *For the Woman He Loves* is the week's attraction at this house. The drama is well staged, under the direction of Mr Stanley S. Gordon, who is again seen to advantage as Philip Meredith, his original part. Miss Nina Vaughton repeats her admirable delineation of the part of Mrs Vernon; Mr E. Avinal gives a creditable performance as Silas Bradley, and Mr Walter Manfree does good work as Muggleton. Miss Meg Merrilys as Virginia and Miss Amy Wood as Bessie Bramble also do well. Little Amy Manfree is still entrusted with the part of Evie Vernon, and displays distinct intelligence.

STOCKPORT.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr William Revill.—The musical comedy, *Jack's Sweetheart*, presented by Miss Gladys Silvester and Mr Fletcher Sansome's company, has given abundant pleasure to large audiences this week. Mr C. W. Payne made a smart Jack Tremayne, and Mr Fred Laceby as the Hon. Bertie Babington was pleasing and clever. Mr Will Percy as Samuel Sherlock Spotter was amusing in a marked degree. Mr Jack Binns was effective as Captain Dugard, and Mr Fletcher Sansome in the character of Sir Henry Stanhope was exceedingly good. Miss Gladys Silvester was most charming as May Leslie, and Miss Marion Walker was a sprightly Sally, whilst the characters of Lady Dolly Dartley and Mrs Hopkinson were ably filled respectively by Miss Muriel Alleyne and Miss Augusta Rochforte.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldon Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder.—Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company is this week showing the evil deeds of *A Beautiful Fiend*, which play seems as popular as ever. Mr Montague Beaudyn plays Ivan Paulovitch with all his accustomed skill; as the villain, Count Katareff, Mr Polson Turner is realistic, Mr Harold B. Lewis being well fitted as Sergius Strogoff. Mr Robertson Foul's as Malachi is clever; and humour is effectively supplied by Mr Charles Kean (Christopher Crackles) and Miss Annie Clunn (Patty Woodlands), who in act four dance the cake walk. As Nadine Katareff Miss Irene Munroe is effective; and Miss Miriam Lewes as Wanda Lubinoff makes the part as realistically repulsive as it should be.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. Batty; Manager, Mr W. Batty.—A big bill is offered to the patrons here, headed by Miss Ella and her troupe of performing lions, who are put through a number of daring acts with much skill. Bijou Russell gives a clever buck dance; Andy Fagan, comic, does well; Will Cornish plays his bells artistically and sweetly; the Jetneys are a couple of lively sand dancers; the Mozondos appear in a skilful barrel and tumbling act; Payne's Photoscope shows new films; and Park's Eton Boys sing most successfully.

SUNDERLAND.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Mr Edward Neville's No. 1 company is paying a return visit here this week with *The Anarchist Terror*. Miss E. Glover gives a first-class representation of the part of Columbia Goldstraw. Mr G. Harvey is good as Silas Washington Goldstraw, and the part of Lieut. Armstrong is done justice to by Mr J. Nelson Turner. Mr Edward Neville plays the difficult part of Ravagoon with success. Miss A. Brunette is capital as a betrayed Jewess; and Miss L. Esmond makes a merry serving-maid. Mr Gus Bowerman is a powerful Ishmael, and Mr Will White excellent as Mickey Doolan.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Brothers; Acting-Manager, Mr George V. Wybrow; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alfred Browne.—Bella and Bijou, the popular society entertainers, occupy the place of prominence here this week. Yamamoto and Koyoshi, sensational Japanese equilibrists, come next in point of interest. George Antill is very funny, and is well named the Evening Shadow. Dale and O'Malley are a successful pair of eccentric comedians. The Ferraris, Alice Maple, Johnny Gilmore, Rose Waller, and Amy Elvira also contribute.

TON-Y-PANDY.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; General Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Counsell.—This week variety is provided in three dramas staged by Mr R. S. Gresham's company. On Monday and Tuesday *The Shadows of a Great City* was presented; to Wednesday and Saturday were allotted *The Thieves of London*; and on Thursday and Friday *East Lynne* was staged.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr R. Smerdon; Secretary, Mr Frank Gurney.—The D'Oyly Carte principal répertoire company is here this week, and on Monday opened with the comic opera, *The Mikado*. Miss Norah Maguire as Casilda is very pleasing, whilst Miss Jessie Rose and Miss Nancy Freyne are both possessed of pleasing voices. Miss Theresa Rassam as Katisha acts with much ability, and Mr Fred Billington is well-placed as Pooh-Bah, and his performance is all that can be desired. Mr Pacie Ripple has a remarkably good tenor voice, and Mr Drawater as Pish-Tush is very clever. As the Mikado Mr Frank Wilson is good, and Mr G. Villiers Arnold is amusing as Ko-Ko, the Lord High Executioner. Other operas in the week's programme include *Iolanthe*, *The Gondoliers*, *Yeomen of the Guard*, and *The Pirates of Penzance*.

TYNEMOUTH.

PALACE BY-THE-SEA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Graham; Musical Director and Assistant Manager, Herr Arnold Blomé.—A capital house assembled here on Monday night to enjoy the excellent programme provided. The Royal Court Orchestra, ably conducted by Herr Arnold Blomé, is as popular as ever; Brinn performs some wonderful feats of strength; J. B. Preston, Scotch comedian, obtains a flattering reception; Ernest Hastings, musical entertainer, pleases in his various items; Lenora Russell, soprano, proves herself to be a vocalist of exceptional merit. The entertainment winds up with an admirable display of animated pictures.

WAKEFIELD.

NEW PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager.—Mr Chas. A. Barnett.—Bandoni wins applause in a musical turn; Fritz, Augen, and Fritz, illusionists, give an interesting performance. The programme also includes:—Miss Annie Sheltz, comedienne; M'Clemo, in a perch act; Mons. Romberg, with an excellent gramophone; Bob Hartley, eccentric comedian, who is well received; the Sisters Knowles, duettists and dancers; and Alveno and Cleo, aerial gymnasts.

WALSALL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Company, Limited; General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—*The Web of Fate*, played by Mr T. R. Nugent's company, is the attraction here this week. Mr T. R Nugent as Clement Burnie is exceedingly good; Mr Terry Hurst does well as Sir William Heath; Vincent Heath is cleverly played by Mr Reginald Payne; Mr Bryce Methven plays Frank Damer in an acceptable manner. Miss Maggie Gardiner is remarkably clever as Florence Damer; and Miss May Kemp makes a capital Olivia Voneer, great support being given each evening by Master Sidney with his popular comic songs.

WINDSOR.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Governing Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr Bert Nicholson.—For Ascot week the boards of this theatre have been occupied by Messrs Wilford Bailey and Harwood Cooper's musical comedy, *The Girl of To-day*. In the rôle of Dolly Miss Lily Beverley is versatile, vivacious, and charming; Miss Florence Lovell is sweetly pleasing as Joan Leslie; while Miss Nellie Fern and Miss Melrose are excellent as Mrs Dawson, the boarding-house landlady, and Molly respectively. Mr Wilford Bailey's Sullivan is both masterly and diverting; and Mr Harwood Cooper is natural and satisfactory as Robin. Toby Dawson, the overgrown, old-fashioned, lanky boy, is impersonated cleverly and amusingly by Mr Cecil Barrett; and Mr H. H. Barrington, Mr Charles Daly, Mr Sid Kearns, and Mr Alec Wylie render their several parts with success and distinction. The music is bright and melodious.

WALTHAMSTOW.

KING'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Bull.—An entirely new production of Mr Arthur Branscombe's ever-popular musical comedy *Morocco Bound*, under the direction of Mr Grahame Herington, occupies the boards here for this week, and its drolleries are evidently to the taste of well-filled houses. Mr T. E. Conover is a capital representative of the retired coster, Squire Higgins, brimful of unforced humour. Mr Robert Whyte, jun., simply revels in the audacious impudence of Spoofah Bey, and his acting, singing, and dancing are equally commendable. Mr Bruce Lindley is very good as the outspoken horsedealer, Josiah Higgins. A particularly cheery rendering of Vivian is supplied by Mr Walter Balfour, whose fine voice is heard to great advantage in the various musical numbers entrusted to the hero. Altogether admirable and never for a moment overdone is the Lord Percy Pimpleton of Mr Grahame Herington, whose idiotic laugh and vacuous stare keep the audience in a perpetual simmer of amusement. Mr Ivor Harvey is quaintly amusing as Musker, and Mr Herbert Cottermore is a duly impressive Sid Fakah, his chief song being finely rendered. Miss Isabelle Vernon is a handsome and vivacious Lady Walkover. Miss Hilda Corelli is a captivating Maud, and her clever dancing is loudly applauded. A pretty and winning Ethel is found in Miss Edith Walker, who acts with a refined comedy touch, and whose principal song, "If I were a Royal lady," is given with great sweetness and expression. Miss Florence E. Trevelion, looking the part to perfection, plays with spirit as the Comtesse De Blague, and sings artistically. An augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr Mark Strong, does full justice to the instrumental requirements of the piece.

PALACE.—Managing Director, Mr G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr George F. Slatter.—Brightness and hilarity are the leading characteristics of this week's programme at the Palace. Mr Charles Austin sings his two songs with quaint humour; Paul Courtney and company appear to advantage in an unnamed and smartly written comedy sketch; Miss Grace Merton, the original street singer, has a sweet and sympathetic voice; the Gladenbecks certainly merit the adjective "extraordinary" applied to their hand-balancing silver bell act; Mr George D'Albert is uproariously welcomed in his two songs "Come away at once" and "Send them to England;" Vansart gives evidence of marvellous strength in his fingers and wrists; Miss Leah Laurie is a bright burlesque actress; Stewart and Morgan are heard to great advantage in their speciality "Leaving Ireland," in the course of which they sing several Irish songs in beautiful style, the exquisite alto of Mr George Morgan ringing through the house. The Brothers Ashley cause roars of laughter in their comedy boxing sketch *Next, Please*.

WEST HARTLEPOOL

GRAND.—General Manager (for Mrs Weldon Watts), Mr Fredk. Conneaux.—A return visit is being paid this week by Messrs Carson and Granville's company, in *The Heart of a Hero*. Mr Fred W. Goddard in manly and vigorous style delineates the character of Jem Resdale; Miss Laurie Pardy thoroughly enlists the sympathy of her audience in her rendition of the part of May Ryder; Miss Beatrice Hudson does well in the dual-rôle of Mrs Barker and Mrs Ryder; wholesome comedy is judiciously rendered by Mr Allen Carruthers as Timothy Heighno; and the heavy rôle of Wilfred Marl is well placed in the hands of Mr Chas. E Johnson.

WORCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; General Manager, Mr Douglas C. Phelps; Assistant-Manager, Mr Albert J. Lewis.—Excellent performances of *Called Back* are being given at this house by the stock company. The part of the political schemer and callous assassin is finely portrayed by Mr James Willard. Mr Douglas Gerrard gives a manly and clever impersonation of Gilbert Vaughan; and the same may be said of Mr E. Valentine as Anthony March. Dr. Ceneri is adequately rendered by Mr F. G. Evison; Miss Grace Heywood shines conspicuously as Pauline; Miss Burt is a sympathetic Nurse; Miss Lallah Davies fills well the part of Ellen Vaughan; and the two songs by Miss Kitty Russell obtain well-deserved encores. The humorous element is capitally sustained by Mr Gwyn Richardson (Captain Kenyon) and Mr W. Dale (the Perisher).

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs A. Milton, W. Johnson, and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—Mr Wyn Weaver and Mr T. W. Rawson's company is here this week with the charming comedy *Too Many Cooks*. Mr A. E. Wyn Weaver is highly amusing as Arthur Winton, and Mr Brember Wills does justice to the part of John Bimbleby. Mr Kenneth Smith is well placed as Mr Jeal, and as the fiery Major Brasket Mr W. T. Elworthy is a complete success. Mr E. H. G. Cox scores as Lieut. Ashurst, and Mr Harris Fraser as John Cook, a butler, submits a clever study. Miss Lily Bertram proves herself a charming actress as Georgina Winton, and Miss Beth Elliott as Dora Brasket is well placed. In the light part of Susan Miss Daisy Milton also scores. A pretty curtain-raiser, *Under the Old Name*, precedes the comedy.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs A. Milton, W. Johnson, and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr F. Willmot.—The excellent turns here this week include Martin Conway, a popular comedian, and the eccentricities of those clever equilibrists and acrobats Dessa and Lovett win approval. Sam Shipley, comedian; Beattie Worth, burlesque actress; Harry Gold, comedian; Wilton Warton, card and coin manipulator; Sandy and Carl, knockabout comedians; and Romeo's Piccaninnies are also in the bill.

WIGAN.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick.—Mr T. Arthur Jones's No. 1 company, in *Life's Sweetest Sins*, affords variety at the Hippodrome this week. Large audiences have been the rule. One of the realistic features of the sensational play is the manœuvring of a submarine boat. Mr T. Arthur Jones gives a forcible representation of Captain Harald Marston, and is materially assisted by the gracefulness and cleverness with which Miss Madge Morley portrays the character of Doreen Rivers. The character of Dr. Colbrooke is admirably impersonated by Mr Oswald Douglas. Miss Sybil Viney as Bess Grayson and Mr Jay Laurier as Bob Tanner are irresistibly amusing, and Mr Sydney Belmore as Jack Lackey is also mirth-provoking.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr Fred Benton and Mr Fred J. Little; Business-Manager, Mr Walter Bellian.—This week Messrs Haldane and Prince's company is appearing here in *Parson Thorn*.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Barnard; General Manager, Mr W. H. Lennon.—The leading line this week here is Leonard Barry, in *The Moochers' Walk*. The programme also includes Cruikshank, musical comedian; Clara Pledger; J. P. Carroll, tambourine artiste; the Two Falcons, balancers; Mabel Thorne, vocalist; Zasuma and Mdlle. De Louise, gymnasts; Ray and Rodney, knockabout comedians; and the Sisters Hayward, dancers.

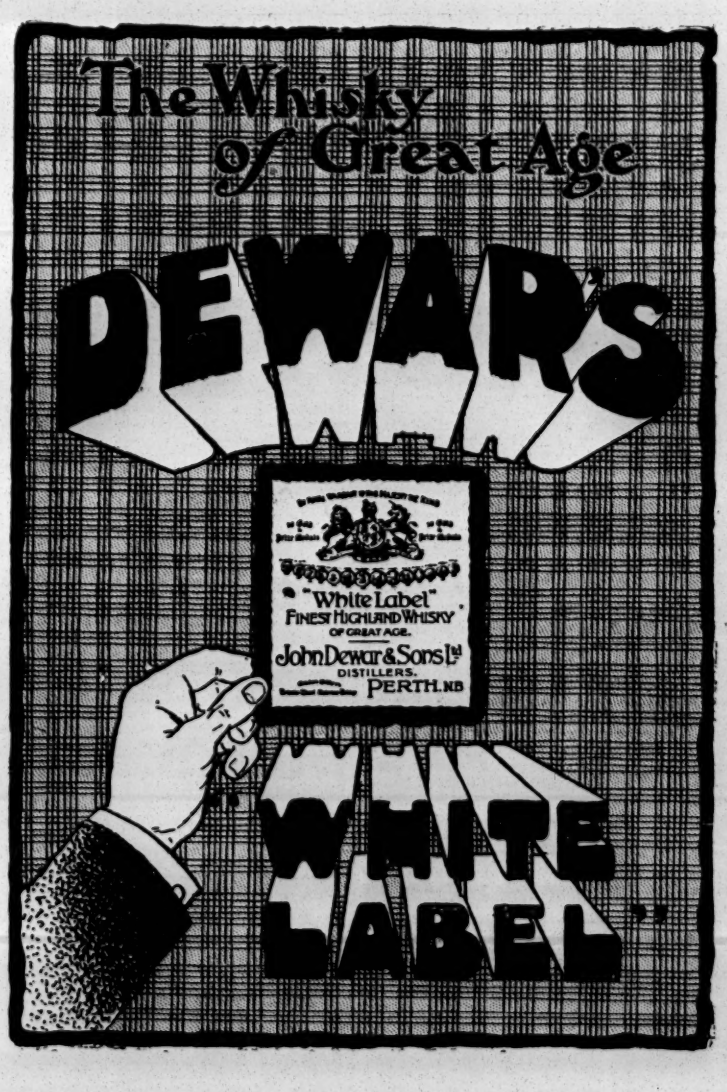
WREXHAM.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr Herbert Nicholls.—This week the chief attraction has been Mr Tom Herman's naval and military spectacle, *For King and Country*. Other good turns are the Five Rhynes, clever dancers and acrobats; Miss Alice Coventry, comedienne; Clown Bobo and Mr Geo. Coldburn, character comedian.

YORK.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr T. H. Barrow.—*The Marriage of Kitty* is the attraction here this week. As Kitty Silverton Miss Vera Fordyce is at once the centre of attraction, and throughout the play acts with much grace and charm. As Madame Semiano Miss Phœbe Mercer gives a crisp and natural rendering of a part specially suited to her naturally charming manner. Mr Sydney Orton as John Travers gives a well thought-out character sketch, and Mr Frank Wilson as Sir Reginald Belsize has ample opportunities of displaying his ability as a thoroughly sound actor. Miss Averil May, Mr H. H. Young, and Mr Naylor Grimson complete the company.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr Sidney Brooks.—The Brothers Artois are at the top of the bill in their particular line of business. The Zampas prove themselves to be dancers of extraordinary merit, and Tom M'Inerney, the wrestler, succeeds in vanquishing all comers with ease. Charles Gardener, Vera Mayne, Herbert Le Martine, Ted Young, and Ada Twibell complete the excellent bill.



CRICKET.

MISS WINIFRED BRADLEY'S LADIES' XI. v. HARRY BELDING'S GENTS. XI.

Played near Clifton Downs on Monday evening, June 6. The gentlemen batted with broomsticks. Scores:—

Miss Winifred Bradley's Ladies' XI.—Miss K. Montgomery, b Aubrey, 4; Miss N. Bailey, b Aubrey, 0; Miss E. Lawrence, b H. Belding, 0; Miss I. Bowman, run out, 3; Miss L. Clayton, b H. Belding, 0; Miss M. Fisher, b Aubrey, 15; Miss C. Fowler, c and b H. Belding, 6; Miss W. Bradley (captain), b H. Belding, 2; Miss L. Carter, b Aubrey, 0; Miss L. Belding, b H. Belding, 0; Miss G. Thomas, c E. Belding, b Aubrey, 7; total, 37.

Harry Belding's Gents.'s XI.—A. Hamlin, b Miss Bradley, 9; J. Lewis, b Miss Bradley, 1; E. Belding, b Miss Fowler, 14; S. Carter, b Miss Bradley, 0; H. Slade, b Miss Bradley, 0; A. E. Bailey, b Miss Bradley, 23; W. Miller, b Miss Fowler, 4; T. Palmer, b Miss Belding, 17; F. Thorne, b Miss Bradley, 0; H. Belding (captain), b Miss Fowler, 8; W. Lloyd, b Miss Bradley, 0; total, 76.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS v. EARLY CLOSERS C.C.

Played at Eastville, on June 8. Scores:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. C.C. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band C.C.—L. Hamlin, b Hedges, 0; E. Belding, b Hedges, 7; H. Hare, b Hedges, 0; P. Hewlett, b Hedges, 0; H. Belding, b Hedges, 18; F. Stevens, l b w, b Hedges, 2; C. Watson, b Yandell, 0; A. Hamlin (captain), b Hedges, 0; W. J. Horton, b Yandell, 14; A. Cox, c and b Hedges, 4; H. Slade, not out, 1; extras, 16; total, 62.

Bristol Early Closers C.C.—G. Hedges (captain), b H. Belding, 31; B. Green, b H. Belding, 5; A. Lucas, c Hamlin, b Hare, 2; W. Denty, b H. Belding, 9; W. Adams, b H. Belding, 0; D. Rogers, b Hare, 1; S. Coombes, b Hare, 8; T. Perry, run out, 3; B. Yandell, b H. Belding, 20; F. Bartlett, c Slade, b H. Belding, 1; A. Rossiter, not out, 4; extras, 9; total, 93.

THESPIDS v. GUY'S HOSPITAL.

Played at Honor Oak-park, June 10. Scores:—

Thespids.—V. O'Connor, c and b Wyatt, 2; L. Holland, c Mutch, b Wyatt, 11; C. A. Smith, c Litchfield, b Wyatt, 54; V. Hazard, c Newman, b Bartlett, 17; B. Egerton, c Strange, b Wyatt, 0; H. Mills, c Wyatt, b Strange, 29; F. Stayton, run out, 10; H. Nye-Chart, not out, 24; A. Stacey, c and b Bartlett, 0; P. Darwin, b Wyatt, 5; A. S. Homewood, c Wyatt, b Morris, 18; extras, 15; total, 185.

Guy's Hospital.—A. Newman, c Nye Chart, b O'Connor, 7; E. S. Norton, c and b Smith, 28; H. H. Moyle, b Holland, 0; H. Archer, c Holland, b O'Connor, 1; H. W. Wyatt, b O'Connor, 14; O. G. Iliffe, b O'Connor, 5; S. Mutch, c Nye Chart, b Smith, 3; E. W. Strange, c and b O'Connor, 17; P. C. Litchfield, b Smith, 5; B. H. Stewart, b Smith. 13; G. N. Bartlett, not out, 7; Morris, b O'Connor, 0; extras, 5; total, 105.

F. KARNO'S "SATURDAY TO MONDAY" CO. v. STAFF OF HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

Played at Tufnell-park Ground, Holloway, on Friday, June 10th. Scores:—

"Saturday to Monday."—Mr Fletch, 21; Mr Maroney, 25; Mr Storrs, 2; Mr Nitsdale, 3; Mr Mills, 20; Mr Lloyd, 17; Mr Helm, 4; Mr Taylor, 5; Mr Palmer, 5; Mr M'Nair, 0; Mr M'Hugh, 0; extras, 17; total, 119.

Holloway Empire.—Mr Barret, 0; Mr Bullivant, 1; Mr Lovitt, 14; Mr Gasard, 33; Mr Adams, 5; Mr Dexter, 0; Mr Wilkins, 4; Mr Large, 9; Mr Harris, 1; Mr Grey, 0; Mr Moore, 0; extras, 11; total, 78.

MISS LILLIE BELDING'S LADIES ATHLETIC TEAM v. COTHAM AND REDLAND LADIES ATHLETIC CLUB.

Played near Clifton Downs, on June 11. Scores:—

Miss Lillie Belding's Ladies Athletic Team.—Miss E. Francis, b Miss Bradley, 2; Miss N. Bailey, b Miss Fisher, 5; Miss I Bowman, b Miss Bradley, 0; Miss L. Carter, c and b Miss Bradley, 0; Miss M. Stuart, b Miss Bradley, 2; Miss F. Smith, b Miss Fisher, 0; Miss E. Bowman, b Miss Bradley, 0; Miss L. Belding (captain), b Miss Bradley, 5; Miss A. Bernard, b Miss Bradley, 0; Miss L Clayton, b Miss Bradley, 0; Miss C. Fowler, b Miss Bradley, 16; total, 30.

Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club.—Miss M. Burgess, b Miss Fowler, 0; Miss K. Montgomery (captain), b Miss Fowler, 11; Miss M. Fisher, b Miss Fowler, 27; Miss L Norris, b Miss Fowler, 9; Miss A. Mitchell, run out, 0; Miss L. Coles, b Miss Fowler, 3; Miss W. Bradley, c Miss Bowman, b b Miss Fowler, 5; Miss G. Thomas, b Miss Belding, 18; Miss N Lawrence, b Miss Fowler, 3; Miss E. Lawrence, b Miss Fowler, 0; Miss A. Gibbs, b Miss Fowler, 2; total 78.

BRISTOL X L.C.R. C.C. v. MUSIC HALLS C.C.

Played on Clifton Downs on June 11. Scores:—

Bristol X L.C.R. C.C.—W. Miller, b Nicholls, 0; H. Hare (captain), b Nicholls, 0; J. Lewis, b Nicholls, 4; H. Belding, b Nicholls, 9; J. Aubrey, b O'Connor, 1; T. Smith, b Nicholls, 0; E. Belding, b Nicholls, 8; S. Carter, run out, 1; E. Bowman, b Nicholls, 0; J Leonard (Westbury Village Reserves C.C.), b O'Connor, 21; T. Palmer, not out, 4; extras, 11; total, 59.

Music Halls C.C.—T. Denton, b Hare, 0; T. Neagle, b Hare, 7; J. Lacey, b H. Belding, 0; W. Meadows, b Hare, 0; W. Hinder, b Leonard, 0; B. Cullen, b H. Belding, 0; F. B. Nicholls, b Leonard, 11; P. Reardon, b Leonard, 7; F. Hansford, b Leonard, 0; H. C. Douglas, run out, 2; D. O'Connor, not out, 15; extras, 8; total, 50.

THESPIDS v. MEATYARD'S XI.

Played at West London, Sunday, June 12. Scores:—

Meatyard's XI.—H. J. Burke, c Smith, b O'Connor, 12; A. Harrison, b Smith, 1; E. Gale, b O'Connor, 4; J. Downward, c Egerton, b Mussabini, 56; Phillips, l b w, b Egerton, 5; G. A. Smith, b O'Connor, 0; L. Gale, c Cameron, b O'Connor, 9; R. Gale, c Mussabini, b Cameron, 14; A. Hollander, l b w, b Meymott, 0; Shadgett, l b w, b Cameron, 37; Simmonds, b O'Connor, 82; Meatyard, not out, 0; extras, 31; total, 251.

Thespids.—S. Mussabini, c E. Gale, b Burke, 0; P. Darwin, c Phillips, b Simmonds, 4; V. O'Connor, b Simmonds, 15; C. A. Smith, c E. Gale, b Simmonds, 16; H. J. Hughes, b Simmonds, 1; B. Egerton, c and b Burke, 0; E. Cameron, b Burke, 57; S. Dixon, b Simmonds, 31; E. B. Payne, b Simmonds, 0; H. Nye Chart, c E. Gale, b Burke, 3; H. A. Meymott, not out, 41; A. G. Stacey, b Shadgett, 7; extras, 23; total, 198.

PLANS for the Coventry New Hippodrome will be submitted to the Council early next week. Should they be approved, building operations will commence forthwith. The stage will be 54ft. square, a full size circus ring, on the principle of the London Hippodrome, with a tank eight feet deep for the production of all kinds of aquatic and other spectacles. A large verandah will be attached to the main entrance to accommodate patrons waiting for early doors.

PRESENTATION.—Since the Grimsby Hippodrom was opened in December, 1902, Mr H. F. Miller has managed the house on behalf of the proprietor, Mr T. Edwardes. During that period Mr Miller has become very popular with local theatre-goers, and on his taking a benefit on the 9th inst. advantage was taken of the occasion by his large circle of friends to make him a present of a handsome gold watch-chain, handed to the bénéficiaire on behalf of the subscribers by Mr Edwardes, who spoke in eulogistic terms of Mr Miller's qualities as a manager. After the close of the last performance the Hippodrome staff assembled on the stage, where an excellent supper was served.

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AUSTRALIA.— MELBOURNE, SYDNEY.

Mr J. C. WILLIAMSON,
Manager of the Leading Australian Theatres.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, MELBOURNE
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THEATRE ROYAL, SYDNEY.

London Representative, Mr J. A. E. MALONE, Daly's T

AUSTRALIA.— Mr HARRY RICKARDS'S AUSTRALIAN ENTERPRISES:—
NEW TIVOLI THEATRE, SYDNEY;
NEW TIVOLI HOTEL, SYDNEY;
NEW GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MELBOURNE;
NEW PRINCE OF WALES'S HOTEL, MELBOURNE;
THEATRE ROYAL, BRISBANE;
TIVOLI THEATRE, ADELAIDE;
THEATRE ROYAL, PERTH.

Mr Rickards is always open to Engage First-class Artists for the above-named Theatres.
Address to the Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney.
Cable address, "Tivolian, Sydney."

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Sole Lessee,
GAIETY THEATRE, JOHANNESBURG;
Sub-Lessee,
STANDARD THEATRE, JOHANNESBURG;
Sub-Lessee,
OPERA HOUSE, CAPE TOWN.

Companies can be supplied with
Scenic Artists,
Carpenters,
Wardrobe,
Scenery,
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Business-Manager,
GRANT FALLOWES.

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AFRICA, SOUTH.— Messrs B. and F. WHEELER and GEORGE EDWARDES, Associate-Manager, G. H. SMITH.
Messrs B. and F. Wheeler now control the Only Theatre in Durban and the Only Circuit of Leading Theatres in South Africa.
Theatres:—
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OPERA HOUSE (from 1905), CAPE TOWN
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HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, JOHANNESBURG.
WHEELERS' OPERA HOUSE, JOHANNESBURG (now building).
THEATRE ROYAL, DURBAN.

Companies now Touring:—
Mr Daniel Frawley and Miss Van Buren.
George Edwardes's London Gaiety Company.

Mr and Mrs Robert Brough and London Company.

London Representative, J. A. E. MALONE,
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ALTRINCHAM.—PUBLIC HALL.— Open for Engagements for Stage Plays, Concerts, Balls, Cinématograph Exhibitions, &c.
Population of District, 30,000. For terms, Vacant Dates, and other particulars, please apply to the SECRETARY.

BATH.—THE HISTORICAL ASSEMBLY ROOMS. — Entirely Redecorated, Reappointed, Heated, and Lighted by Electricity at a cost of over £4,000. Concert Hall, Ball Room, and Minor Halls. For Vacant Dates, October, onwards, address the Lessee, EDWARD S. MICHEL
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BATLEY, THEATRE ROYAL.— Proprietors, Mr and Mrs J. EDWARD WHITTY.
Batley is the biggest borough and most thickly populated town in the whole of the heavy woollen district.—Vide Leeds Mercury, Aug 1, 1901.
Within a radius of Two Miles from the Theatre Royal, Batley, there is a Compact Population of 90,000.
Stage Dimensions.

Proscenium Opening	26ft.
Width from Wall to Wall	50ft.
Width between Fly Rails	31ft.
Depth	31ft.
Height from Stage to Grid	50ft.
Height from Stage to Fly Floor	20ft.

Holding Capacity.
Number of Persons who paid for admission on one night:—

Circle and Boxes	168	Pit	844
Side Circle and Stalls	525	Gallery	712
Total, 2,199			

Vacant Dates, Aug. 1 and 8.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.— Managing-Director, Mr TOM B. DAVIS.

Will Reopen at Christmas, 1904-5, with Pantomime.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1905.
For Dates, address Mr TOM B. DAVIS,
Lyric Theatre, London.

BLACKBURN, THEATRE ROYAL.— The Premier and Popular Theatre of the Town.
High-class Attractions do immense business here.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1905
Address, HARRY YORKE, Rossendale-avenue, Morecambe

BLACKPOOL.— HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS.
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES, and has better average Business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best Equipped Theatre. Large and Well Electric-Lighted Stage and First-class Orchestra.
All Visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ball-room, and Pavilion Entertainments, thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies booked.
For Dates address, JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, Manager,
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for
Additions and Enlargement.

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For terms, &c., Vacant Dates, apply to the Lessee
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CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.). Managing Director, Mr W. B. REDFERN, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
A few Vacant Dates in October.
Silence polite negative.
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CATERHAM, SURREY.— Seventeen Miles from Town. Population, 9,000.
THE PUBLIC HALL. Three Minutes from Station.
Seating accommodation provided for 400 (400 extra Seats by arrangement). Permanent Stage. Dressing-rooms. Terms, per night inclusive of Heating and Lighting, 2½ Guineas. Special terms for the week.
All communications to the Manager, J. D. ROLLS, Kinnoul, Warlingham, Surrey.

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After the necessary alterations and redecorations have been carried out, Mr Macdona intends to run the above property on recognised Theatre lines, and invites applications for Dates from First-class Managements only. Good Dates for Good Companies. The Season is from July to September. Apply, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W. Wire, "Cockeyed, London." Telephone, 6,920 Gerrard.

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The above Theatre is now undergoing very extensive alterations, and when finished will be one of the finest Theatres in the Scotch Provinces.
The Decorating and Upholstery are being carried out by Messrs A. R. Dean and Sons, Birmingham.
The Theatre will comprise Gallery, 6d.; Pit, 9d.; Pit Stalls, 1s.; Balcony, 1s. 6d.; Dress Circle, 2s.; Boxes, 15s and £1 1s.
The Pit Stalls and Balcony will be Upholstered in Crimson Plush, the Dress Circle in Old Gold Plush.
Lighted throughout with Electric Light.
Everything Up to Date.
Opening Date now settled.
First-class Attractions Required for 1905.

Write full particulars to
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Vacant Dates, Aug. 8, 15, 29, Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 24, Nov. 7, 14, 28, Dec 5 12, Christmas. Apply to CHARLES MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE, ISLE OF MAN.
The Largest and Most Popular Theatre of any Seaside Resort. Enormous success of the extensive alterations.
All letters, ALFRED HEMMING

DUBLIN.—QUEEN'S ROYAL THEATRE. Sole Proprietor and Patentee, Mr ELLIS JONES.
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Through obliging Manager, Vacant July 25th.
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Silence in all cases a respectful negative.

DUBLIN. ROUND ROOM, ROTUNDA,
can now be Engaged for
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Vacant October and onwards, with exceptions.
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To be erected at a cost of £18,000. Holding over 2,000.
Fireproof, Electric Installation.
Any other Theatre in Greenock is barred.
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Few Autumn Dates at Liberty,
Now Booking 1905.
Telegraphic address, "Curry Grimsby."

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Hanley has undoubtedly the Largest Theatre and Stage in Staffordshire. Lighted by Electricity; accommodation for 3,700 People. Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to ends of the District, Longton, Stoke, Burslem, and Tunstall.
Vacant for First-class Companies only,
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One of the Finest and Largest Halls in the Provinces. Fitted with Large Stage, and suitable for Circus, Minstrels, Panoramas, Concert and Choir Parties &c. Rental or Share. Only a Few Vacant Dates. GENERAL MANAGER.

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Magnificent Stage, equal to any Production.
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Numerous Exits;
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Seats 600.
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Vacant Dates:—Jarrow, July 25, Oct. 17, and from Nov. 28, on, with exceptions. Barrow, July 25, Sept. 26, and Oct. 17, for First-class Musical Attractions. The Bookings for this Theatre include the Principal Attractions Touring.
Consett, June 20, Aug. 22, Oct. 3, 31, and Nov. 14.
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Apply, C. ROBT. PERKINS, Opera House, Jersey.

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Wanted, First-class Attractions,
Share or Certainty.
This Theatre can be Booked in conjunction with the QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL,
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Apply, CARSON and GRANVILLE.

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For Vacant Dates address,
J. BANNISTER HOWARD,
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N.B.—Required, Good Pantomime for Christmas.

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Re Dates for Spring, 1905, address,
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Business Manager for Lieut-Col. Winstanley,
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Address all communications to
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Telegrams, "Svengali, London."

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Vacant Sept. 26, Big Attraction only;
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Silence a courteous negative.

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Holding Capacity, £203. Telephone, 362.
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All communications to ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

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Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative

PLYMOUTH, THEATRE ROYAL.— Lessee and Manager, ARTHUR CARLTON.
Bookings include:—Sir Chas. Wyndham, Fred Terry and Julia Neilson, Miss Ada Reeve, Wilson Barrett, Mrs Lewis Waller, Martin Harvey, Mrs D'Oyly Carte's Co., Geo. Dance's Cos., T. B. Davis's Co., Moody-Manners No. 1 Co. London Rep., C. MACDONA 17, Shaftesbury-av., W.C.

PLYMOUTH, THEATRE ROYAL.— This Theatre will again pass into Mr Williams's hands after June 25, 1904,
and will be Reopened under his Management on Monday, June 27.

Applications for Dates to be addressed for the present to
Mr C. F. WILLIAMS,
The Grand Theatre, Plymouth.
Vacant July 4, 18, 25, Aug. 22, Dec 5 and 12.

PLYMOUTH. — GRAND THEATRE. — Centrally situated in the midst of over 200,000 Inhabitants. The Most Popular Theatre in Plymouth. Playing to Record Business, and now in the Flood Tide of Success. First-class attractions only. For Dates apply, Mr C. F. WILLIAMS,
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Open throughout the Year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

PORTSMOUTH.—EMPIRE PALACE.— June 20, Woodward's Seals, H. Bancroft, E. Ames, Sisters Reveri, H. Maynard, K. Marsh, G. Rapley, S. Stanley, J. Salmo.
Rehearsal at 2·0 o'clock.
All communications to the SECRETARY.

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Manager, HENRY BOWMAN.
The Old-established and Popular Theatre.
Visited by all the Leading Attractions.
Only Vacant Date, Aug. 15, 16 17.

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Mr J. Bannister Howard having taken a Long Lease of the above Theatre, is now having it entirely renovated and will Open Monday, July 25. For Vacant Dates and Bookings see Wanted Column.
J. BANNISTER HOWARD, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

SOUTHEND.—EMPIRE THEATRE.— The Prettiest and most Popular Place of Amusement on the South-east Coast.
Bookings include all the Best Attractions.
Required, First-class Companies for
July 25, Aug. 22 Oct. 3 10, 17;
also Easter and Whit Week, 1905.
Managers of First-class Companies only please address, W. MARLOW, jun., as above.
Silence a polite negative.

SOUTHPORT. OPERA HOUSE. All the Best Companies booked.
HIPPODROME (Circus) to Let for Summer or Autumn Season. Moderate Rental.
PAVILION. Newly Decorated.
Share with First-class Variety Combinations.
ALFRED HEMMING,
General Manager.

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Sole Owner and Manager, Mr CHARLES REVILL.
Will hold at ordinary Prices £120
Bookings include "Amorelle," "The Earl and the Girl," "The Never-Never Land," "The Girl from Kay's," "Florodora," Miss Fortescue, "Duchess of Dantzic," "The Orchid," "Message from Mars," "My Lady Molly," "A Chinese Honeymoon," "Three Little Maids," Van Biene, J. W. Turner, "A Country Girl," D'Oyly Carte, &c
Vacant Oct. 17, Nov. 14, onward, with exceptions.
THE THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, Six Miles Distant, Booked in Conjunction. Will hold at ordinary prices £140.
All communications, CHARLES REVILL, Stockport.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE OPERA HOUSE and THEATRE ROYAL.
Managing-Director, CHAS. E. MACHIN.
General Manager, PERCIVAL CRAIG.
Only Vacant Dates.
AVENUE.
Aug. 15, Sept. 5, Nov. 28.
ROYAL.
Aug. 1, Dec. 12, 19.
Managers please note Seaham Harbour is barred.
Apply, C. E. MACHIN, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

WALSALL. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.— Proprietors, THE WALSALL THEATRES Co., Ltd; Secretary and Manager, W. H. WESTWOOD — Holds £180 Circle, 3s.; Stalls, 2s.; Family Circle, 2s.; Pit Stalls, 1s. 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Amphitheatre, 9d.; Gallery, 6d. First Vacant Dates, Aug. 8th and 15th, and on (with exceptions).

WEST BROMWICH, THEATRE ROYAL.— Proprietor, Mr JAMES P. MOORE.
A Popular and Prosperous Theatre.
Electric Light throughout. Leading Companies only.
Vacant Aug. 1 and Nov. 7, 8 9.

WOKING.—PUBLIC HALL.— JOHN SMITH, Secretary.
The Hall is fitted with Electric Light,
Scenery by Hinton, Tip-up Seats by Deans of Birmingham
The Stage has recently been Enlarged.
Good Attractions only Required.
J. LEWIS, Manager

WREXHAM.— ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.
The Postal Authorities having Purchased Site of above (for enlarging General Post Office, which adjoins), Mr Hicks has disposed of his Lease of same, and sincerely thanks Managers for kindly cancelling Dates.
New Stock Scenery, Proscenium (Opening 20ft. by 16ft.), Act-drop for Sale, by Private Treaty.
Apply to J. HICKS.

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MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTES.
ARTISTES WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS (Three Lines), ONE SHILLING
Each Additional Eight Words, Sixpence.

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Address, the PUBLISHER,
Forty-nine, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up." 4747. Central.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.

WANTED, Companies for
OALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 24, 31, Nov 14, Christmas Week, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Aug. 22, Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 14, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 24, Nov. 7, 21, on.
(Musical Companies preferred.)
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 31,
Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12.
CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD
Vacant, July 25, Dec. 19, 26, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Sept 5, Oct. 31,
Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 16 23.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Vacant Sept. 19 26,
Oct. 10, 31 (Race Week), Nov. 21, Dec. 12, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Company for Aug. 22.
County Theatre, Reading.
Apply, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.

WANTED, First-class Pantomime or Musical Comedy for Christmas.
Apply, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

MELVILLE'S THEATRES and COMPANIES.

WANTED, Important Attractions, for
STANDARD THEATRE,
July 4
TERRISS THEATRE,
July 18.
METROPOLE THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM,
Aug. 22, 29, and Sept. 19, 26.
Address WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
OLYMPIA THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Aug. 29, Sept. 19, Oct 3, on.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
July 25.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL,
Aug. 1, 29 Sept. 26.
THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON,
Aug. 29, Sept 5, 12, 19.
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead"

WANTED, Wanted, Companies for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
Sept 19, Oct. 3, 17, Nov 7, 28, Dec. 12.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Vacant Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 5, and Christmas.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY!
Vacant Aug. 18, Aug. 25 (Cricket Week), Sept. 8, onwards.
VICTORIA THEATRE SHEERNESS.
Excellent business can be done for First Three Nights of each Week. Canterbury Booked in conjunction.
Vacant Aug 1, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, onwards.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr HARDING THOMAS.

WANTED Drama, Aug. 8. A Scene Dock, 30ft. long and 20ft. high, has just been added.
HERBERT VERE.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. PAYNE SEDDON.

WANTED, Companies, Sept. 12, 19, Oct. 10, 17, 24, Jan. 2 and 16.
Return Fare, First Class and Saloon, from Glasgow, 17s. 6d.
Return from Liverpool, 16s.
W. PAYNE SEDDON,
Coombe Cottage, Holford, Bridgwater, Somerset.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK
Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. PAYNE SEDDON.

WANTED, Companies, Sept 5, Oct. 3, 10, 24, Nov. 14. Last Three Days of each Week only.
Dumfries can be Booked in conjunction First Three Days.
W. PAYNE SEDDON,
Coombe Cottage, Holford, Bridgwater, Somerset.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, GRIMSBY.

WANTED, Good Companies, Aug. 15.
Also Good Pantomime, first in, late January or early February, 1905, through rearrangement.
J. H. CURRY, as above.
Three Days' silence a polite negative pro. tem.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.

WANTED, Companies, July 11.
Lessee and Manager, Mr E. MACKNIGHT;
Business-Manager, CHARLES E. HARDY.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Jarrow,
Strong Attraction for July 25
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

MR F. W. PURCELL'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class, Companies,
July 11, 18, Aug. 8, 15, Sept. 5, 19, 26,
Oct. 17, 24.

THEATRE ROYAL, HULL.
July 11 probably Vacant.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or High-class Play. The Theatre Royal is now the only Theatre in Hull playing full prices. Aug. 15 also Vacant, oblige Wynn Miller.
Address, W. MORTON.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.

WANTED, Big Attraction (Musical preferred), for the principal Holiday Date,
Sept

COMPANIES WANTED.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
Managing-Director, Mr R. C. BUCHANAN.

THE FINEST TOUR IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.
A FINANCIAL AND ECONOMICAL SUCCESS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.

GLASGOW.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.
LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE.
KIRKCALDY, KILMARNOCK, GREENOCK } At present in course of Construction. { KING'S THEATRE. KING'S THEATRE. NEW THEATRE.
All communications re Dates to R. C. BUCHANAN,
General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Telegraphic Address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

WANTED, First-class Companies,
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS,
July 4, 25, Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 8, 19.
GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE,
owing to cancelling to oblige Manager,
Sept. 8 and Sept. 29, Oct. 24, and on.
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
Sept 26 (?), Oct. 3, 17.
GRAND, SWANSEA,
July 4 (?), 18.
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN,
Vacant July 25.
GRAND THEATRE, BOSCOMBE,
Aug. 29 (?), Oct. 10 (?). 24.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.
Wire, "Lutanist, London."

POOLE'S THEATRES, GLO'STER and SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, the Best Companies Only for the Theatre Royal, Gloucester, now One of the Prettiest, Cleanest, and smartest Theatres in the Empire. Electric Trams from all Parts. The Only Theatre in the City.
Opera House, Porth, the Largest and Most Successful in the District, now in the Full Tide of Success.
Opera House, Treherbert. Top of the Valley. Another fine Theatre, where everything before, behind, and outside is done well. Extensive building now going on directly opposite. The pits sunk, the coal found. Directly they start the Population doubles. Now good, then excellent.
Town Hall Theatre, Maesteg. Another coming Eldorado. More pits sunk, fine coal found. Hotels, business establishments, and streets rebuilt.
"The Christian" took at Maesteg, in three nights, in an off pay, £118 and in three nights at Treherbert, £130, and we mean to double these receipts. Only a few Autumn and Spring Dates left. Every inquiry solicited.
Theatre Royal, Pontypool, at present to Let on Share or Rental. Apply, for all Theatres,
C. W. POOLE, Wotton Lawn, Gloucester.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE,
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, July 18, Sept. 26 (Three Nights), Oct. 3, and on.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General Manager.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, owing to Transfer, Good Attraction, Musical preferred, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 17, Dec. 5, 19, Feb. 6 and 20, onwards, Easter and May 16 excepted. SIDNEY COOPER.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD, E.
July 18, Aug. 1.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for the above Dates.
Apply, FRED FREDERICKS.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE, WIGAN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for Aug. 22 (Musical preferred).
Address, J. WORSWICK, Managing-Director.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Company, July 11, 12, 13, Three Nights.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

WANTED, Good Companies, Drama or Musical Pieces, Good Combinations, Aug 22 and 29 and Dec 5, 12. W. K. GATLEY, T., Macclesfield.

THEATRE ROYAL, RYDE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, J. BANNISTER HOWARD.
WANTED, Good Companies, for Season Dates. Bookings include "Three Little Maids," "Chinese Honeymoon," "A Country Girl," "La Poupée," "Belle of New York," "Florodora." "The Eternal City," "Saturday to Monday," Arthur Roberts, "The Darling of the Gods," &c. Vacant Dates, Aug. 4 (Three Nights), Aug. 8 (Six Nights), Aug. 29, 30 31, Sept. 5 (Six Nights).
J. BANNISTER HOWARD, 3, Bedford-st., Strand, London.

THEATRE ROYAL, GRANTHAM.
WANTED, First-Class Companies for few remaining Autumn Dates. Bookings and Pencillings include "Three Little Maids," "The Dandy Doctor," "La Poupée," "Human Nature," "San Toy," "Toreador," "Are You a Mason?" EDWARD MARRIS.

WANTED, First-class Companies (Three Nights), August. Seat 800. Good Scenery, Dressing-rooms, &c. Public Hall Theatre, St. Anne's-on-the-Sea.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, Two Nights. Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple, N. Devon.

THEATRE METROPOLE, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Weeks of Aug. 15, 22, and 29.
Wire,
"Hustler, Birkenhead."

ROYALTY THEATRE, LLANELLY.
The Sensational Success of South Wales.
WANTED, Strong Attraction for August Bank Holiday. Reopening of Season.
Address JOHN TULLY, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

WANTED, Musical Plays.
Also Good Companies.
Apply, H. E. BRAMMALL, Crystal Palace.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORKINGTON.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr HELSBY WRIGHT.
The Popular Theatre under Popular Management Re-opened Monday, June 13, with the Return Visit of Mr J. H. Morton's Successful Comedy, "The Rajah" (house packed from floor to ceiling), followed on June 20 by Miss Cissie Moxton and Company in "A Trip to Rum-Fum."
WANTED, Managers with Vacant Dates, please address, HELSBY WRIGHT, T. R., Workington.
Telegrams, "Wright, Theatre, Workington."

WORKMEN'S HALL, MOUNTAIN ASH.
The Only Fully Licensed Hall in the Town. All Modern Improvements carried out in Stage and Dressing-room Accommodation, with a Splendid Electric Light and Gas Service. One of the Finest Halls in Wales.
WANTED, Known, the Committee of Management are open to accept Engagements of Good Theatrical and Variety Companies, on Share or Rental Terms. Satisfactory references must be given.
For terms and Vacancies,
Apply to Mr WILLIAM JONES, Secretary,
the Only Authorised Person to accept Engagements in connection with this Hall.

WANTED, Strong Play for Special Fortnight. Would not object to one unproduced. Miss MAY, Simonside, South Shields.

VICTORIA HALL, HALIFAX.
WANTED, High-class Dramatic and Operatic Companies for August and Early Part of September. Fine Proscenium and other Stage Equipments. Seating accommodation 2,500. Population, radius of Six Miles, nearly 200,000. Mr W. H. MITCHELL.

WANTED, Pier Pavilion, St. Leonards (through transfer), First-class Attraction for June 27. Nine Shows.
Wire or write,
DREW MACKINTOSH, 7, North-place, Brighton.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity.
Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards, with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Whitland.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
Vacant,
Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, onward.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant,
July 18, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 16, onward.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant,
Dec. 19, March 6, 13, 27, April 3, onward.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant,
July 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, Sept. 5, 12.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Vacant,
July 25, Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
Vacant,
Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 31, Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 5, 12.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant,
July 4, 11, 18, 25, Sept. 5, 19, 26.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENRTE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant,
Aug. 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 14, Dec. 12.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
Vacant,
Aug. 8, 15, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, Oct. 3,

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant,
Aug. 1, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26.

All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON, Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Musical Preferred,
July 11, (?) Sept. 5, Oct. 10 (Three Nights), 17, Nov. 14, 28.
Good Pantomime,
Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9,
One, Two, or Three Weeks.

Star Theatre, Swansea.
Good Dramatic Attractions,
Aug. 22, Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 21, Dec. 26.

Albert Theatre, Brighouse,
Musical Attractions Only,
Aug. 1, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 19, Nov. 28.

MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

NEW THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr J. BANNISTER HOWARD.
WANTED, Good Companies to send their Vacant Dates. Bookings include:—Edward Terry, "Three Little Maids," "Chinese Honeymoon," "A Country Girl," "La Poupée," "Are You a Mason?" "Belle of New York," "Florodora," "The Eternal City," Arthur Roberts, "San Toy," "The Darling of the Gods," &c. J. BANNISTER HOWARD, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, London.

GAIETY THEATRE,
HASTINGS.
Manager, Mr G. H. GAZE.
WANTED, First-class Comic Opera or Musical Comedy.
Vacant Dates, Sept. 12 and 26, 1904.
State terms.

WANTED, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford, Companies. Vacant July 4 and on. Strong Attraction for Bank Holiday. Now Booking Autumn. JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

WANTED, First-class Attraction (owing to transfer), July 18. Must be A1.
WILL SMITHSON, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for June 27th Nothing too Big.
Wire, HORNER, Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, First-class Companies for Aug. 1, Oct. 3, 10, and Dec. 12.
Write, MANAGING-DIRECTOR, Theatre, Exeter.

WANTED, Good Company, July 7 (Three Nights).
MANAGER, King's Theatre, Walton-on-Naze.

WANTED, First-class Productions for Victoria Opera House, Burnley, Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Nov. 28, Jan. 9 16, 23 HORNER, Burnley.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 31, and Nov. 28, also First-class Pantomime, three or four weeks, Christmas.
Address, T. EDWARDES.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY and RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Big Attractions, Sept. 19, 26, on, Chorley; also Aug. 29, Sept. 26, on, with exceptions, Radcliffe. Address, SANTS, Radcliffe

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THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies, Sept. 12 and 26; also Few Later Dates.
Address, GERALD HARDING.

RAMSGATE.—AMPHITHEATRE.
Sole Proprietor, LORD GEORGE SANGER.
WANTED, Owing to "Lady Molly" Fire, First-class Company, Aug. 15, 16, 17.
Address, HENRY BOWMAN, Manager.

IPSWICH LYCEUM.
WANTED, Companies, Aug. 8, 29, Sept. 12, Oct. 17, 31, Nov. 7, 21, 28.
Apply to W. G. FISK.

THEATRE ROYAL, BATLEY.
WANTED, Company, Aug. 1.
See Provincial Theatre Page.

WANTED, Companies, Boro' Theatre, North Shields. Proprietor, ARTHUR JEFFERSON. Ninth Year of Personal Local Management.

Vacant June 5, 1905, various, onwards.

Contracts recently to hand:—"Eternal City," "Fatal Wedding," "Actor's Romance," "Are You a Mason?" "Christian," Miss Go-Won-Go Mohawk, "His Majesty's Guests," "New Barmaid," "Royal Divorce," Pantomime "Goody Two Shoes," "Golden Ladder," and Moody-Manners.
Touring Managers please note.—The Boro' is booked in conjunction with the Grand, Royal, Princess's, and Metropole, Glasgow; Royal, Blyth; and the various Theatres controlled by the Scotland's Provincial Theatres Directorship, by which and whom (in all cases) any other Theatre in North Shields is barred.

Address, Ayton House.

WANTED, Companies, Theatre Royal, Blyth, Aug. 1, 8, 15, Oct. 17, Dec. 19.
Address, ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Ayton House, North Shields.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, Musical Comedy, Aug. 29.
Address,
STANLEY ROGERS, 31, Bulmershe-road, Reading.

WANTED, Companies, Variety or Comedy. Various dates, July, Aug., Sept. Modern theatre. Seaside resort. MANAGER, King's T., Walton-on-Naze.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Sept. 26, Nov. 7.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 5.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1, Oct. 3, 10, Nov. 7.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."
WANTED, Important Theatres for Walter Melville's New Play, Aug. 1, 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 10, 31.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 24, Nov. 14 (?), and on. Christmas Vacant.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, for "Her Forbidden Marriage," Fredk. Melville's Latest Production, Aug. 15, Sept. 5 and 12, and on.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."
WANTED, Important Theatre in or near London, June 27,
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of July 18 and 25, for this Powerful Attraction.
Wire,
"Hustler, Birkenhead."

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
Absolutely the Largest and most perfect Production of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Touring Great Britain.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 22, Sept. 19, Oct. 24, Nov. 14, Christmas, and 1905.
C. HARRINGTON, Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool.

MR ARTHUR BOURCHIER'S COMPANY,
in
Mr W. S. Gilbert's Successful Play
"THE FAIRY'S DILEMMA."
WANTED, First-class Theatres for Aug. 15 and Oct. 3 (North or Midlands).
Address, Mr SILVANUS DAUNCEY, 22, Charing-cross, S.W.

WANTED, Christmas Dates for M. George Dance's Companies.
Apply, T. C. WRAY, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?"
Now in Third Year of Successful Tour.
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 4, to follow Alexandra Theatres, London;
Aug. 1, Aug. 1, Aug. 1, onwards with exceptions.
Wire, CHARLES R. STONE,
To-day, Gaiety Theatre, Manchester;
next week, Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

"A WOMAN'S REVENGE."
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 18 Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 19, Oct. 3. Bookings include Prince's, Bradford; Empire, Oldham; Junction, Manchester; Osborne, Manchester; Lyceum, Eccles; Middlesbro', Hull, &c. HENRY L. OSMOND, C. T., Peckham, S.E.

"A WOMAN'S REDEMPTION"
(from the Pavilion Theatre, London).
WANTED, Aug. 22 follow Swansea (Return), for above Beautiful Domestic Drama.
JAMES HARE, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, Farewell Tour, "The Private Secretary" or "Jane," Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10, 31, Nov. 7, 14. Managers with above Dates write,
E. C. STAFFORD, Camden Theatre, Six Nights.

WANTED, Aug 15 for "Zaza," also Sept. 5, Oct. 17, Nov. 21. Address,
HALDANE CRICHTON, Pleasure Gardens, Folkestone.

"A MOTHER'S LOVE."
WANTED, July 18, between North Shields and Standard Theatre, London;
also Sept. 26 and Oct. 3. either for
"A Mother's Love" or "The Follies of Youth."
Only Vacant Dates this year, July 18, Sept 26, and Oct. 3.
FRED L. CONNYNGHAME,
This Week, Gaiety Theatre, Leith;
Next Week, Royal, Darlington;
June 27, Royal, Hull.

"GIPSY JACK."
WANTED, Autumn Dates for the above Popular Play. Can Play Two Pieces if necessary. Waiting for Good Dates. £50 Gross Theatres need not apply. HENRY BEDFORD, 99, Halton-rd, London, N.

"BIGAMY."
WANTED, Aug 22 and Sept. 12 for this New Production. FRED MOULE, Royalty T., Barrow.

WANTED, Oct. 17 and Dec. 26 for "The Life that Kills."
Address, FRED MOULE, Royalty Theatre, Barrow.

MISS SCOTT-WATSON'S COMPANY,
"THE SCARLET WOMAN."
Second Year of Continuous Tour.
WANTED, July 4 (between Sunderland and Sheffield) also Aug 1 and 15.
Address, Mr CHARLES DRAYCOTT, or Miss SCOTT-WATSON, To-day, Grand, Hull;
To-morrow, Theatre Royal, York.

WANTED, Theatres (South and Mid.) for "Her Fatal Past," Nov. 7 and 21. Another triumph at the Palace, Newcastle. Coms., WARD, R. T., Liverpool.

"FOR THE WOMAN HE LOVES." Second Year of Successful Tour. Portsmouth Press says:—Best romantic drama seen at this house. Weymouth Press says:—Best drama ever seen in Weymouth. Invariably Good Business at the Best Theatres.
WANTED, July 4, 18, Aug. 1, and onwards, with exceptions. STANLEY S. GORDON, Queen's, Swindon; next, Lyceum, Stafford.

HENRY SWINERD'S COMPANY,
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, July 11, 25, and Sept. 5.
Address, J. W. CORDINER, Opera House, Coventry.

MR H. B. STANFORD and MISS LAURA BURTS CO., in New Farcical Comedy,
"WHY WILLIAM LIED."
WANTED, July 11, 18 Aug. 1.
Apply, THOS. COURTICE, 9, Oval-road, N.W.

MR LESLIE VYNER'S TOUR,
"SAVED FROM THE SEA."
Mr Leonard Robson and First-class Company.
WANTED, July, Aug 15, Sept. 5 and 12 Big business at Cardiff. Refer Frank Bateman.
Address, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
and
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S

"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
including
the Wonderful Child Actress,

Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
in her great creation,

JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
as played by her over 700 nights in London.

WANTED, July 11
(to precede Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield),
Aug 8
(to precede Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth),
Aug. 29,
Sept. 5, 12,
Oct. 10,
Nov. 14
(to follow Theatre Royal, Leeds).

Mr Kirk thanks Wm Bailey, Esq., for Return Date at West London Theatre;
Charles Elphinstone, Esq., for Return Contract at Hanley;
E. A. Smith, Esq., for Return Contract for Marina Theatre, Lowestoft;
also M. Montgomery, for Contract for Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

Now Booking 1905.

Refer to any of the following Bookings and Rebookings:—
Standard, London;
West London,
Surrey;
Terriss, Rotherhithe;
Royal, Stratford;
Brixton,
Queen's, Manchester;
Osborne, Manchester;
Junction, Manchester;
Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Opera House, St. Helens;
Royal Court, Wigan;
Prince of Wales's, Southampton;
Prince's, Bradford;
Theatre Royal, Leeds;
Queen's, Leeds;
Palace, Newcastle;
Grand, Blackpool;
Metropole, Glasgow;
Victoria, Burnley;
Metropole, Birmingham;
Royal, Barnsley;
Prince's, Portsmouth
Prince's Theatre, Accrington;
Opera House, Wakefield;
Prince of Wales's, Grimsby;
Alexandra, Hull;
Alexandra, Sheffield.

General Manager,
G. CARLTON WALLACE,
Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
DOUGLAS BRUCE'S No. 1 COMPANY.
WANTED, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, and Dec. 5.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 17, 24, and Dec. 5.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, and Dates, 1905, for Important New Play.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Christmas, Jan 2, 9, 30, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
By Wilson Barrett. From Hall Caine's Novel
WANTED, Oct. 10, Nov. 7, 14, and 28.
Beautifully Mounted and Splendidly Played.
The scenery was beautiful, and the accessories correct to the smallest detail.—Liverpool Courier.
Fast Booking 1905.
Royal Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence," July 18 (follow Leicester), Aug. 1 (follow Attercliffe, precede Wolverhampton). C. CLIFFORD. Wire, Birkenhead; next, Carlton, Greenwich.

WANTED, for "Circumstantial Evidence" or "At Twelve Midnight," Oct. 24 (to precede Third Visit to Scotland); also Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17. C. CLIFFORD, Carlton, Greenwich.

"HOME, SWEET HOME."
WANTED, Aug. 1, and Few Autumn Now Booking 1905.
Address, FRANK LINDO, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

Wire for June 27, July 11.
Wire for June 27, July 11.
HERBERT FULLER'S Racing Play,
"FIENDS OF LONDON."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres.
Entire Production carried.
Wire, FULLER, Globe Theatre, Deal.

"AT WAR WITH THE WORLD."
WANTED, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, onwards.
Everything Reliable. Printing Always Ready.
GEO. LYTTLETON, M. T., Bootle; next, T. R., North Shields.

MISS ROSE MONORIEFF'S COMPANY.
"LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD" Pantomime.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Jan. 9 and on.
Entirely New Production.
N. MAURICE, Terriss, Rotherhithe.

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S Celebrated Drama,
"ROGUES AND VAGABONDS"
WANTED, Aug. 1, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 19, and on, with exceptions. Guaranteed one of the Finest Mounted and Best Advertised Productions on Tour.
HARRY ESDEN, Grand Theatre, Hull.

Mr DUDLEY CLINTON'S COMPANY,
in Sir Francis Burnand's "BETSY." A. W. Pinero's "DANDY DICK."
Special Engagement of Mr W. H. Denny as The Tutor and Noah Topping (his Original Part)
WANTED, June 27 to Follow Harrogate, July 4, to Precede Royal, Dublin;
also July 25 (Suburban), and August Bank Holiday.
Wire, to-day,
DUDLEY CLINTON, Opera House, Blackpool;
next week, Opera House, Harrogate.

"THE LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, Theatres with Large Stages, for this the Dramatic Novelty, Sept. 12, On, with Exceptions.
Address, SANTS, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, July 18, for "A Life's Story." Sept. 12, 16, onwards, for "A Marriage of Vengeance." FRED BENTON, T. R., Scarborough.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr BERT COOTE'S COMPANIES.
"THE FATAL WEDDING."
"THE FATAL WEDDING."
"THE FATAL WEDDING."
WANTED, First-class Theatres. A Few Autumn Dates only.

Aug. 15 (Suburban or South),
Aug. 29 (Midlands),
Sept. 26 (Midlands),
Oct. 3 (Suburban or South),
Oct. 24 (North),
Nov. 14 (South or West),
Nov 21 and 28 (Midlands),
Dec. 26 (South or Midlands).
Companies Complete.

All communications should be addressed to CECIL BARTH, General Manager, Princess's T., London, W.

Mr CECIL BARTH'S COMPANY in
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
July 25 (Suburban or Midlands),
Oct. 10 (Midlands),
Dec. 26 (Midlands or North),
April 24, 1905 (Suburban).
Company Complete.
All communications, Princess's Theatre, London, W.

MR LAWRENCE BROUGH
and COMPANY, in
"THE LADY OF OSTEND," "THE LADY OF OSTEND," "THE LADY OF OSTEND," By Sir Francis Burnand.
"THE SAUCY SALLY," "THE SAUCY SALLY," "THE SAUCY SALLY,"
"IN SUNNY CEYLON," "IN SUNNY CEYLON," "IN SUNNY CEYLON," By Guy Boothby.
WANTED, First-class Theatres or Pier Pavilions,
for these Strong Attractions.
Aug. 8 (Three Nights), South;
Aug. 15 and 22 (Weeks);
Aug. 29 (Three Nights), South;
Sept. 5, 19, and Oct. 3 (Weeks).
Address, to-day, Aquarium, Great Yarmouth;
June 20, Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Thirty-sixth Week of Tour.
Finest Cast Touring, including Miss Dora Price as The Woman and Mr Frank Adair as the Marquis.
WANTED, July 11 and 18 (in or near London), Aug. 22 and 29 (Lancs. or Yorks.), Sept. 12, and onwards, with exceptions.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR,
To-day, Theatre Royal, Leeds; next, P.O.W.T., Grimsby.

MISS WINIFRED MAUDE'S COMPANY,
"THE SINS OF A CITY."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres,
Aug. 15, Oct. 17 and 24 (North)
"The Sins of a City."
Forty-eighth Week of Tour.
First-class Company.
Magnificent Printing, over Twenty Varieties.
Six Sets of Scenery Carried.
Address, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.

"BRANDED AS CAIN."
"BRANDED AS CAIN."
"BRANDED AS CAIN."
New and Powerful
Sensational Drama,
by Violet Sims,
King's Theatre, Walthamstow,
July 4,
and following Five Nights.
WANTED, First-class London Theatre.
Address,
Business Manager,
J. BANNISTER,
69, Kenlake-road,
Queen's-park, W.

"WHY WOMAN SINS,"
"WHY WOMAN SINS,"
by W. P. Sheen and F. S. Jennings.
WANTED, Wanted, June 27, June 27,
to follow Broadway, Deptford;
July 18, July 18,
to follow Shakespeare, Clapham.
Concluding a Tremendous week at the New Ealing Theatre.
Scenery Entirely Repainted.
A High-class Drama, Full of Naval Interest.
Wire, To-day, GEO. HARRIS, Ealing Theatre, W.;
June 20, Broadway Theatre, Deptford.

WANTED, for "A Faithful Friend," July 4, July 4, July 4, July 4, July 4, July 4, between Middlesbrough and London.
LEWIS GILBERT,
this, Grand Theatre, Nottingham; next, Rotherham.

"THE NEW CLOWN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres only, Aug. 1. Aug. 1.
Absolutely First-class Company. Everything carried.
H. GREVILLE, 10, King-street, Covent-garden.

WANTED, for "Partners in Crime," July 18, July 18, and on, to follow North Shields.
Everything Carried. Everything New and Bright.
LEWIS GILBERT.
This, Grand, Nottingham; next, Rotherham.

"A WOMAN'S PLUCK."
WANTED, Aug. 15, Oct. 3, 24, 31.
Wire, DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

"A WOMAN'S PLUCK."
WANTED, through transfer, Theatre, Aug. 15.
Wire, DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

"A TRIP TO BOSTON."
WANTED, Theatres, June 27, Onward, for the above High-class Musical Comedy, Performed by Good Vocalists, Sound Actors, and Music Hall Artists of repute. Coms., AMANDUS, Theatre Royal, Margate.

"THE BLACK BISHOP."
WANTED, Aug. 15 and Onwards, with exceptions. Address, Mrs R. A. CUTHBERT, T. R., Birkenhead.

WANTED, Theatres, for F. A. Scudamore's Enormously Popular Play, "The Biggest Scamp on Earth." Miss Frances Delaval's London Company, Aug. 1, 29, and a few other dates. Wire (to-day), Greenwich; next, Dalston Theatre, N.E. Eleventh month of Tour.

WANTED, Aug. 1, 8, 15 22, "The Thieves of London," "Shadows of a Great City." Company includes W. Fraser-Brunner, Eric Campbell, Montague Corri, Norman Chantry, R. S. Gresham, Mesdames Rita Milman, Ana Corri, Dolores Hope, Clarice Jenner, &c. Wire, GRESHAM, T. R., Ton-y-pandy; next, T. R., Ilkeston.

WANTED, Wanted, July 18, "The Conscript."
This Week playing to Crowded Houses at Accrington.
Refer J. Ormerod, Esq., or Morton Powell, Esq.
Address, MITCHELL and BELTON, Prince's, Accrington.

"THE SEAL OF SILENCE." Fourth Year of Tour.
WANTED, July 4, 11, 18, Aug 8, and few Autumn Dates. Refer R. Ernest Liston, Esq., T. R., Leeds; C. P. Cooke, Esq., Grand, Nottingham.
Address, to-day, WYKE, P. O. W., Salford; next week, T. R., Ton-y-Pandy.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"HONOUR THY FATHER"
Mrs Morton Powell as Mercy Merry.
Aug. 15, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 3, 31, Nov. 14, 21.
Only Dates till Autumn, 1905.
"GREED OF GOLD."
Under the direction of Mr W. M. Cameron.
Vacant Sept 19 (?), Oct. 10, 17, Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 5, and few later.
Wanted, Dates for
New Production starting September
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

CARSON AND GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS.
"HEART OF A HERO."
"DRAMA OF LIFE."
"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, for Above Successful Attractions,
"Heart of a Hero," Aug. 29, Oct. 10, 31; "Drama of Life," Aug. 1, Sept. 26, Nov. 28; "Defending His Honour," Aug. 29, Oct. 3, 17; "A Modern Adventuress," Nov. 14, Jan. 30. Managers are invited to forward Vacant Dates for above to
L. CARSON, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

MR and MRS F. G KIMBERLEY'S COMPANIES.
"A FIGHT FOR LIFE"
WANTED, July 11 and 18, between Hull and Devonport; Aug. 29 (North). Next week, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield. F. G. KIMBERLEY, The Hollies, Calf Heath, near Wolverhampton.

"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY"
(by Arrangement with Mr Frank Curzon)
WANTED, July 18 (Three Nights), follow Harrogate; Aug. 15 (Three Nights), precede Buxton; Oct. 10, 24 Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5.
JOSEPH WILSON,
Criterion Theatre, W.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
Aug. 1
WANTED, First-class Theatre, in or near London.
E. P. CLIFT,
110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.

MISS OSWALD'S "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED June 27, North (through obliging), July 11, on, also Aug. 1, 8, Sept. 26 Oct. 3 and 31 (South) Quite distinct from others, and advertised by the finest Plant of Pictorials (Reserved) ever used for this never-failing draw. Spring Tour opens March 6, Barrs' Colosseum, Oldham
Write, Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL,"
by Henry Merriman.
Big Success this week in Swansea.
Few Autumn Dates Vacant
WANTED, Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 31, onwards.
Address,
STANLEY HOPE, 82D, The Chase, Clapham-common.

"THE NEW SAPHO."
WANTED, July 14, 15 16 (follow Harrogate). July 25, Aug. 8 (Precede and follow Crystal Palace), Return. An enormous success everywhere. Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grand.
Wire, JAMES BELL, Queen's Theatre, Fleetwood.

BEAUDYN and LIVESEY'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Good Theatres for the New Oriental Play, by G. A. De Gray,
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
All Beautiful New Scenery, by T. Holmes and T. P. Hall, Shakespeare, Liverpool. Everything Carried.
The Geisha Acrobatic Dancers. Vacant July 4. Aug 15, 22, Sept. 5, Oct 3. 17, Nov. 7, 14. T. R, Stockport.

"THE WEB OF FATE."
WANTED, Theatres, June 27, July 4, 11, On, with Exceptions, for this successful Drama. Comedy, Music. Wire, NUGENT, Grand, Walsall.
Next, Muncaster, Bootle.

WANTED, July 4, through Misunderstanding, for Augustus Geo. Lytton's Company, n the Great American Melodrama "A Hidden Crime." Three Complete Sets carried. Practical Fountain and Superb Cast. July 4, to follow Oldham
All communications re Dates to
HARRY LYONS, 25, Northampton-square, E.C.

"A LIFE AT STAKE."
JEROLD HEATHER and GEO. A. DE GRAY'S CO.
WANTED, June 27, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1 8, 15, 22 various later.
JEROLD HEATHER,
To-day, Derby; Monday, Northampton.

"SHADOWS OF A GREAT CITY."
WANTED, Big Theatres, July 4, 11, Aug 1.
To-day, HARRY FOXWELL, Theatre Royal, Blyth; June 20, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield (Third Visit).

WANTED, July 18, to follow Gaiety, Manchester; also Aug. 1, and on, with exceptions,
"Trooper Hunt's Widow,"
Enormous success everywhere.
Refer, Mr Redford, Theatre Royal, Cardiff; Mr O. Redford, Opera House, Cheltenham; Mr Manaton, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells
Wilfred Shine as Trooper and Widow Hunt.
Address FRANK NELSON,
Grand Theatre, Swansea.

"THE LONDON FIREMAN."
WANTED, July 4 and Aug. 22
E. L. GARSIDE, Surrey Theatre, London

WANTED, Aug. 1, for New Mephisto (by Geo. Dance) Address, W. H. KIRBY, care of CHAS. MACDONA 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, Sept. 5 and 12. Bookings include T. R. Bolton; Bacup, Blackburn, Camden Theatre, Coventry, Elephant Theatre, Alex., Hull; Islington, Queen's, Leeds; Middlesbrough; Borough, N. Shields; Perth, Paisley, Plymouth, Southampton, Southport, &c. Address, EUGENE BERTRAM, 1, Gilmore-road, Lewisham, S.E.

"IF I WERE KING."
WANTED.—Only Vacant Dates this Autumn, Sept. 12 (Three Nights), between London and Weymouth; 26 (Six Nights), to follow Jersey; Nov. 7 (Three Nights), to precede Harrogate. FRANK FENTON, 15, Ashburnham-mansions, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, July 4, Onward, Successful Drama, "My Wife." Next week, P.O.W., Wolverhampton. Managers invited. Houghton's Dramatic Agency 29, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagements, "Opera Mad." Managers wishing to Book this Enormously Successful Musical Absurdity, apply to RICHARD CUMMINGS (Author and Proprietor), 18, Beck-road, Mare-street, Hackney.

WANTED, Feb 6, 13, 20, for First-class London Pantomime.
Theatres Capable of Holding
Big Money only.
Please address, J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

WANTED, July 4 and 11th, for Geo. Marriott and Miss Edith Finlay's Big Triple Bill Company, the Sensational Episode, "London After Dark;" Grand Song-Scena, "The Goldsmith's Wife;" The Popular Musical Comedy-Drama, "The Maid of the Alps." New Songs, Dances, &c. Monday, 20th, T. R., Aston, Six Nights.

WANTED.—An Established Pastoral Company, having the Afternoon of July 2 unexpectedly Vacant (near London), could Accept a Small Certainty or Share for a Shakespearian Play on that Date if given for Charitable Purposes.
Write to S. PALGRAVE, 801, Fulham-road, S.W.

WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1, and On, for Juvenile Military Production,
"Russia and Japan."
The Phenomenally Successful Spectacle, assisted by 100 Local Children. Complete, Elaborate Production.
J. CLARKE, Bedford Palace, Camden-town.

WANTED, to Lease, Good Theatre, by Responsible Manager, or would entertain a Partnership. Address, Box 7,963, "The Era" Office.

ARTISTES WANTED.

CARSON and GRANVILLE'S PRODUCTIONS.
"HEART OF A HERO."
"DRAMA OF LIFE."
"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."
"MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED.—Artists in All Lines are invited to write in for Autumn.
Must mark envelopes special line of Business. Will Artists please write to Managers to whom they refer asking for references to be sent direct. Full Particulars to LINGFORD CARSON, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"I DEFY THE WORLD,
WANTED, Artistes to Complete Cast for above, including Good Child Actress, must be over fourteen, and Look Small; also Good Juvenile Lady and Character Comedian.
All to rehearse July 4th,
Address,
C. M. JULIAN, Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.

WANTED, Full Company for First-class Tour, Drama. Send lowest terms, full particulars, to Box 7 987, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen, immediately, Crown Theatre, Broadway, Deptford; Ealing Theatre, Tneatre, Croydon; P. O. W. Theatre, Wolverhampton, &c. Apply, Houghton's Renowned Dramatic Agency, 29, Waterloo-road, London. S.E.

WANTED, Reliable Actors and Actresses, Engagements waiting Monday next. May Barrett wire whereabouts. Houghton's Dramatic Agency, 29, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Amateur Lady and Gentleman can be Received in First-class Company for Small Parts and Understudy. Refinement, Youth, and Intelligence essential. Moderate Premium Required. Salary from Commencement. This being a thoroughly genuine opportunity applicants will please give full particulars (in confidence) in first instance, when, if satisfactory, a personal interview will be arranged
Box 8 002, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, a Lady and a Gentleman wishing to adopt the Stage can be received into an Established Company of the highest repute. Thorough Tuition will be given. A Premium of £25 is required, and, when proficient, a Salary will be given. Box 7,960, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Immediately, Lady or Gentleman for Autumn Tour of High-class Play (now running at Principal West-end Theatre). Must invest Portion of Capital. Could arrange to play Principal Parts if competent. Strictest investigation invited. Excellent opportunity for Talented Amateurs Magnificent Production. First-class Tour Booking. Apply, Box 8,003, "The Era" Office.

"HER FATAL PAST." Autumn Tour.
WANTED, First-class Heavy Woman, also Smart Chambermaid, Capable of Strong Dramatic Acting. Other Vacancies probable. Address, with all particulars, photos (stamped envelope), &c, to T. E. WARD, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Responsible Heavy Lady, Summer and Autumn Tour. Good Voice and Figure essential. Terms, photos, references, CLIFFORD, Carlton, Greenwich.

WANTED, for "Queen of the Night," First-class Heavy Woman. Long Tour. Age, height, photos. (important), references and lowest terms, JAMES STILLWELL, Prince's, Portsmouth.

WANTED, a Tall Gentleman for Douglas and Stage-Management. State age, height, and experience, with lowest terms for long tour, or call, E. C. STAFFORD, Camden Theatre, London, N.W.

WANTED, Immediately, First-class Leading Man for Mark Desmond. Only Recognised Artistes address, T. E. WARD, Rotunda T., Liverpool

WANTED, First-class Leading Man, Tall; Lady for Straight Comedy Part; a Strong Woman, 5ft. 8in. at least. Photos. and fullest particulars, with lowest terms, FRED MOULE. Royalty Theatre, Barrow.

"FACING THE MUSIC."
WANTED, Gentlemen for Light Comedy, Character Comedy; Lady for Character Comedy. Photos, references, age, height, and lowest terms, to GERALD ALEXANDER, 4, Mornington-rd., Regent's-pk, N.W.

WANTED, Good Low Comedian for Autumn Tour. Terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for Twelve Nights, Probably Longer, to Rehearse Manchester Tuesday next, Short Slim Comedian of Youthful Appearance for Jockey part, "Rogues of the Turf." Lowest terms, &c., to JOHN F. PRESTON, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, for July (Four Weeks), Sketches, Portsmouth, a Low Comedian and Responsible Gentleman. A. KENYON GRAY, Post-office, Mexborough.

WANTED, Tall Baritone or Tenor, for Musical Comedy, Good Part. Long Tour. Also Gent for Character Part, must be Tall. Particulars, photo, &c. P. P., Cameleon House, 17, Brougham-road.

WANTED, Principal Soprano Must be Young and Pretty. Tall Chorus Ladies, Tenors, and Basses. Apply personally immediately, F. Darrell and Co., 415, Strand.

WANTED, at Once, for Houseboat, Concert Party, Baritone and Comic Singer, Pianist preferred. Call or wire before 12 0 p.m., Saturday, PEMBERTON, 13, Glendower-place, South Kensington.

WANTED, First-class Vocal Quartette; also Ballad Vocalists; for Piers. Write full particulars, photos., lithos, COLLINI, 147, Victoria-road, Kilburn.

WANTED, Young Lady for Musical Act. Costumes and Home Provided. State Instruments. Terms, ROYAL ZERBINIS, P., Hammersmith; next, Grand, Islington.

WANTED, Several Young and Good Acrobatic Dancers, well up in Tricks, Long Engagement. Terms, &c, Manager, Box 7,991, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Christine Errington, Resigning Four Months' Engagement as Starring Lead, "Tom, Dick, and Harry" Co. Disengaged 25th. Good Offers invited. This O H., Middlesbrough; next, Londesborough, Scarborough.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Florence Foster (height 5ft), Boys, Ingenues, Petite Chambermaid, &c. Sketch or Drama. 38, Bacton-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Known, Miss Cora Duncan, terminating Two Years with Fred Karno, Esq. Disengaged, Musical Comedy, Panto. T. R., Attercliffe.

WANTED, Summer Dates, by Contralto-Comedienne: Coon, Light Comedy, Concerted Répertoire Sketches. Join Concert Party. Box 7,883, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Contralto Disengaged end of July and August. Solos, Quartettes, &c. Apply, Box 7 997, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Maggie Frye's "Royal Cerise" Concert Party, Engaged Season, Jersey. The "Cerise" Ladies' Orchestra Performing Portsmouth June 29 to July 9. Then Disengaged for Season.
60, Charlotte-street. Portland-place.

WANTED, by Percy Challenger, July 11 to 30th. Only Vacant Dates. Refined Rep., Songs, Recitals, Sketches, &c. Al Fresco, &c. Claremont Pier, Lowestoft.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

Mr Robert Arthur's Pantomimes.
WANTED, Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen.
Voice Trial
every Tuesday,
Kennington Theatre, 11 0 a.m.

WANTED, Artistes Disengaged for Pantomime to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Artistes Disengaged for London Suburban Pantomime to send Photos, Terms, and Particulars to Brooks, Agent. 33, Shaftesbury-avenue. W.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies Engaged in J. F. Elliston's Pantomimes last year to write in again for Next Year,
with full particulars.
Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Chorus Ladies for London and Provinces.
Must have Good Appearance.
Apply, Tuesday next, between 12 0 and 2 0, with Song.
Edward Cranston,
6, Chandos-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Responsible Manager or Syndicate to Produce High-class Up-to-Date Pantomime, Christmas, 1904-5, at the Avenue Opera House, Sunderland. One of the Best Pantomime Towns in the Provinces. Productions for Past Fourteen Years have averaged Ten Weeks' Run.
Capitalists who can provide a Fully-equipped and Elaborate Production only asked to apply to
C. E. MACHIN, Avenue Opera House, Sunderland.

WANTED, for Responsibles and Assist Stage Manager, Young, Tall, and Experienced Gentleman. Must Dress well. Fullest Particulars, A. B. CROSS, "Manxman," Aquarium T., Yarmouth.

WANTED, Immediately, Stage-Manager, Thoroughly Experienced in the "Two House" System. Good address, and versed in office duties. Lowest terms, latest references to FRANK EGERTON, Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, a Gentleman wishing to Learn Business Management can be Received into an Established High-class Company, and thoroughly Taught the same. A Premium will be required, and a Salary will be given. Box 7,961, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Experienced Agent-in-Advance Apply, first instance, by letter only, to CLIFFORD ESSEX, 15A, Grafton-street, Bond-street, W. Will Mr Withers, if Disengaged, Reply?

WANTED, a Good, Smart Property Man, to combine Bill Inspector. Must be thoroughly up to the Business. C. JULIAN, Royalty T., Morecambe.

WANTED, Carpenter, for Tour. Bench Hand.
Box 8,001, "The Era" Office.

WANTED (expiration of Surrey Theatre Lease), Re-engagement as Acting-Manager. Highest reference. CHAS. H. BOWMAKER, Acting-Manager, Surrey Theatre.

WANTED, Known, Arthur W. Howard, Advance Manager, Disengaged for Autumn. Concluding Third Engagement with Eugène Stafford, Esq. ("Private Secretary" Company). Address, this, Camden Theatre, W.; next, Coronet T., Notting-hill-gate.

WANTED, by Mr. Frank J. Pitt (Late Secretary and Acting-Manager "New Sapho" Syndicate, Ltd.), Engagement. Refs. 9 Church-st., Hanley.

WANTED, Known, Tom Featherstone is at Liberty. Seventeen Years Master Carpenter and Scenic Artist, Theatre Royal, Darlington.
Address,
21, Chesnut-street, Darlington.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Electrician and Cinématograph Operator. Experienced. OPERATOR, c.o. JOHNSTON, 62, St. Stephen's-st., Salford.

WANTED, by Smart Young Man, as Baggage or Props. Good experience and references. HARRIS, Exhibition, Avenue Theatre, Morpeth.

WANTED, by a Lady, Thoroughly Domesticated, Good Needlewoman, Musical, a Position of Useful Companion to a Professional Lady. Trustworthy; excellent refs. L. S., 13A, Lynn-street, Balham, S.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Leader (Violinist) Good, Open Monday.
Wire, J. PERRY, Happy Valley Minstrels, Llandudno.

WANTED, Experienced Conductor for London; also Flute and Drums for Empire, Cleethorpes, Lincoln. Must be steady. Age and refs., JOHN HOLMAN.

WANTED, First Violinist at once. Must be well up in the Music Hall Business.
Apply, AINSCOUGH, Musical Director, Hippodrome, Wigan.

WANTED, First Violinist (Good) instantly, till Sept. 25. £2 5s. Send references. Only Good Player apply. Box 7,973, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, First Violin and Trombone, open July 4, Yarmouth Hippo; also Musicians for Hippo., Lowestoft, July 18. TILSWELL, 26, Durning-road, Liverpool

WANTED, Cornet (Good), at once, for the Tunbridge Wells Military Band. Terms shares. Apply, SECRETARY, 80, Camden-road, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, First Cornet, Clarionet, and Drums. Good Performers. Variety.
July 4 to October.
Lowest terms and references to
MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Hippodrome, Blackpool.

EMPIRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Solo Cornet, to open June 27. Only Competent Men need apply, enclosing copies of latest testimonials, and stating salary required, to WALTER H. HAGUE, Conductor, as above.

WANTED, First and Second Cornet and Trombone (Good), for Hanneford's Circus, Touring Ireland.
The Premier Show in the country.
Few Good Clowns may also write.
Monday, Rathdowney; Tuesday, Roscrea.

WANTED, Solo Clarionet, Small Military, for Ilkley, Ten Weeks. Open June 20. Send terms, refs., BELLERBY, Musical Director, Ilkley.

WANTED, Clarionet and Cornet.
Apply, SECRETARY, Town Band.
Marquis of Granby, Richmond, Surrey.

WANTED, a Good Bassoonist, for West Pier Orchestra, Brighton.
Apply, J. S. DUNLOP, Conductor.

WANTED, Trombone, combine Euphonium. Apply, with references and salary required, to P. A. LENNON, Manager, Empire Theatre, Bradford.

WANTED, Euphonium, for Sedgwick's Menagerie. Terms, 30s. per week. Hamilton, Saturday; Bellshill, Monday; Shotts, Tuesday, Scotland.

WANTED, Euphonium (First-class), for the Bristol City Band. Salary, permanency. WILKINSON, Secretary, 80, Hayward-road, Barton-hill, Bristol.

WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Competent First Horn, from July 2 to Oct 8. Applications, with references, and salary required for One and Two Performances Daily, to J. R. HUDDLESTONE, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, 'Cello Player, able to accompany on the Piano, Long Engagement. Easy work. Apply, Box 7,983, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Harpist, First and Second Violin, Piccolo, Mandoline, Guitar, Ladies or Gentlemen, for Boats. Terms, shares. MELVILLE, 2, Jubilee-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Pianist (Attractive Lady) and Vocalist. Must Read Print, Manuscript, and Vamp. Terms to GEO. SPENCER, Marquis of Granby Hotel, Lincoln.

WANTED, to Open Monday Next, Smart Pianist, also Good Baritone for Al Fresco (Shares). DILLON, 9, Hopkins-street, Weston-Super-Mare.

WANTED, Pianist, to Combine other Instruments Suitable for Small Quadrille Band.
SECRETARY, Pavilion, Matlock Bath.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
WANTED, Complete Orchestra (with the exception of Conductor) Apply, stating names and addresses for reference and wages required, to
OSWALD STOLL, Empire, Cardiff.

The Devonshire Minstrels and
Al Fresco Entertainers,
Buxton.
WANTED, Band, to commence Monday, June 27, at Buxton, for the Season (Three to Four Months), with the above First class Organisation, First Violin (Leader), Second Violin, Solo Cornet, Flute, and Piccolo; also Pianist (Vocalist preferred). Must be thoroughly competent, willing, and in every way reliable, and dress well. Evening Dress indispensable.
Performances are given in the Parks and selected Public Resorts, Leading Hotels, &c, by the authority and under the auspices of the Urban District Council, sole right. To approved Artistes this should be a pleasant and health-giving engagement.
Address, with references, particulars, and actual lowest summer terms, to W. ROSS-CATTANACH, Proprietor, Devonshire Hotel, Buxton, Director.

WANTED, Several First-class Ex-Military Bandsmen to Augment for Summer Season at Seaside Resort. Terms must be low. Apply, with references, &c, Arthur, 434, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Several Good Musicians, including Trombone and 'Cello. The latter Double-handed preferred. Lowest terms and references, CHARLES JULIAN, Royalty, Morecambe.

WANTED, Musicians, all Instruments, for Tenting, Ireland; also Leader required. Summer and Winter Engagement. BOSCO, Hippodrome, Belfast.

WANTED, a Respectable Lad, about Fifteen, who can play the Bagpipes, Clarionet, or Cornet. Pipes preferred. Permanent Employment to Suitable Boy. State Terms J. H. W., Alnambra, Hull.

A. M. U. Musical Agency.
WANTED, Musicians anxious to secure the best terms before accepting Engagements in Scotland
to write to Mr J. Bartley,
9, Seamore-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, the A. M. U. Musical Agency, Proprietors of the Famous Imperial Bands, have Booked several important Engagements for the coming Season. Military and Orchestral Bands on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet, containing full particulars, to the Manager, C. JESSON, The Institute, 96, Long-acre, W.C. Telephone, 9,827 Central.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

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WANTED, by Experienced Conductor (Violin), Engagement, Theatre or Variety. Compose, Arrange. Late Mus. Dir., Renad's "Swiss Express." H. NATION, 116, High-street, Collier's-wood, Merton, S.W.

WANTED, by Violinist, Lady (thoroughly experienced), Engagement. Address, VIOLINIST, 2, County-grove, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

WANTED, by Experienced Conductor (Violin and Piano), Engagement, July 25 to Sept. 15, as Leader or First Violin. Address, W. S, care of EDWARDS, Music Warehouse, Altrincham.

WANTED, by Conductor-Pianist, Engagement, Summer Season. Experienced Accompanist. Tour or Pier. A. CREIGHTON, 170, Walworth-road, S.E.

Grand Opera or Comic Opera.
WANTED, by Musical Director, Well Known, and having Great Experience and Large Répertoire, an Engagement. Trained entirely in Germany at Royal Court Theatre, Carlsruhe. Address, DIRECTOR, 95, St. George's-road, South Belgravia, S.W.

WANTED, by Violin, Conductor or Leader, Engagement. Library of Standard Music. Wire or write, H. D. HURST, Castle-hill, Hindley, Lancs.

WANTED, by Leader or Pianist, Engagement during Summer Months.
Address, Miss LITA JARRATT, 49, Preston-street, Brighton.

WANTED, by Musical Director (Piano and Violin), Composer and Arranger, Immediate Engt., any Business. Address, 50, Chestnut-street, Worcester.

WANTED, by Harry L. Gibson (Mus. Dir. Piano), Composer and Arranger, Season H. Claremont's Mascots, Broughty Ferry, Autumn, any business. 2, Albert-place, Broughty Ferry.

WANTED, by Conductor, First Violin, Second Violin, Viola, Bass, Clarionet, Cornet, Trombone, Drums, Engagement, together or separate. CONDUCTOR, Theatre Royal, St Helens.

WANTED, by Conductor, an Engagement. Experienced, best references, steady, abstainer. Box 8 000, care of "The Era" Office, London.

WANTED, by Leader and Viola, Engagement, any Business, through Closing. Three years Surrey Theatre. CHAPMAN, 23, Woodpecker-road, Newcross, S.E.

WANTED, by Musical Director, (Violin), Engagement, any Business. Reference, Harrison Frewin, Conductor, Moody-Manners Opera Co. SMITH, Conductor, O. H., St. Helens.

WANTED, by Violin and Viola, Engagements. Any Business. Depn. in London June and July. Seaside August. CUTHBERTSON INGLIS, 8, St. Margaret's-road, Brockley, London.

WANTED, by Violin (First or Second), Engagement. Combine First or Second Trombone. Excellent references. SYKES, Leader, New T., Oxford.

WANTED, by Violinist (Lady), Fifteen Years' Experience. Engagement in Orchestra. London preferred. Miss POOLE, 116, Upper Richmond-road, Putney.

WANTED, by Second Violin (Experienced), Engagement in Ladies' Orchestra.
Miss HELEN IZETT, 18, Albion-place, Hanley.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement for Season. Young, Steady, and Reliable. Good References. ALBERT NEWELL, Violinist, Hebden Bridge.

WANTED, by Violin Player (First or Second) and Drummer, Engagement.
123, Wardour-street, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, by Violinist (First-rate) Engagement in Seaside Orchestra, commence end of July. X. Y. Z., Orchestral Association, Gerrard-st., London, W.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement. Disengaged through Theatre closing.
J. ALLEN, 393, Woolwich-road, Charlton, Kent.

WANTED, by Solo Violinist, Engagement in Concert Party; commence end of July.
VIOLINIST, 74, Abingdon-villas, Kensington, London.

WANTED, by First or Second Violin, Engagement. At Liberty through closing.
First-class references. HART, 65, Grasmere-street, Bolton.

WANTED, by Violinist or Trombone, First-class, Engagement. Now at Liberty. Thoroughly Experienced in High-class Music, Orchestral and Military Bands, also Theatre and Variety Business. Excellent testimonials. V. T., 1, Westover-ter., Minerva-av., Dover.

WANTED, by Violin (Combine Viola), Engagement; also Cornet and Four-string Bass. Competent. B. MORRIS, P.O, Blaengarw, near Bridgend

WANTED, by Violinist (Good), Engagement as Leader or First Violin. Stock of Music. Experienced. J. CARPENTER, 11, Gilpin-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, by Violinist (First-class) and Pianist (experienced all lines) Engt., together or separate. Telegrams, letters, B. RORDER, Post-office, Blackpool.

WANTED, by Second Violin, Summer Engagement, Theatre or Variety, through Theatre closing. D. WOLSTENHOLME, 24, Windsor-terrace, Ferngrove, Bury.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Violinist (combine Cornet), Summer Engagement or Deputising. Good refs. HARRY WILLOWS, 11, Baven-bank, Boston, Lincolnshire.

WANTED, by Cornet (Combine Viola), Engagement. First-class Sight Reader and Transposer. Apply, with terms, CORNET, 80, Rosslyn-crescent, Wealdstone, Harrow.

WANTED, by Solo and Orchestral Cornet Player (Good), Engagement. London experience. Excellent references. Box 7,978, care of "The Era" Office

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, any Business Touring preferred. At Liberty.
F. JACKSON, 51, Handford-road, Ipswich.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet (late Blackpool and London Theatres), Engagement. Thoroughly reliable. R. TRIPP, 7, Wellington-av., Montpelier, Bristol.

WANTED, by Cornet (Repiano or Second), combine Viola, Re-engagement. Good reader and transposer. Wire, CORNETTIST, Post-office, Buxton.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement June 20, for Two Weeks. Address, LILIAN SMITH, 19, Rochester-road, Camden-town, N.W.

WANTED, by Cornettist (Good), Immediate Engagement. Any Business. Three Years present Engagement. Mr GLENN THORNE, 50, Chestnut-street, Worcester.

WANTED, by Cornet (Experienced), Engagement. Good references. Season or Permanent. GEO. BRADLEY, 33 Erskine-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Clarionetist, Re-engagement. Solo if required. Orchestral or Military. Council work accepted. MUSICUS, 26, New North-road, London.

WANTED, by Clarionettist (Solo or First), Engagement. Any Business. Highest References. Ten Years' Experience. J. BURNS, 48, Haymarket, W.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Re-engagement. Any Business, Orchestra Preferred. Can start at once. Would deputise. HATFIELD, 108, Paradise-road, Clapham, London.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement. At Liberty July 2. Any Business. Good references. C. H. GARNER, 21, Bridge-st., Leominster, Herefordshire.

WANTED, by Solo Clarionetist, Engagement. Fifteen years' experience. Open at once. CHARLES RICE, 38, Brook-street, Kennington.

WANTED, by Bass (Lady), Engagement. Address, Miss MAUD JONES,
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WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement. Good experience. Any business. Good references. Through closing. J. DAVIS, 71, Lowe-street, St. Helens, near Liverpool.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement, Summer or otherwise, any Business. Experienced. At Liberty through Closing. BASSOON, New T., Oxford.

WANTED, by Double Bass (Four-string), Seaside Engagement. Ten Years' Experience. Solo. G. TONKS, Nethercot, Gravelly-hill, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement. Vacant June 20. W. RICKS, Poole's Myriorama, Briton Ferry, Glamorganshire.

WANTED, by Four-String Bass (Experienced), Engagement, any Business. Good refs. Join at once. G. SMITH, 88, Windmill-lane, Smethwick.

WANTED, by Trombone or Euphonium, Engagements. Matinées, Dances, Balls, or Short Engagements in General. Experienced and Reliable. J. F. FAIRCHILD, Fernleigh, Elmdale-rd., Palmer's-gn., N.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement. Fifteen years experience.
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WANTED, by Trombone or Euphonium (well Experienced in Military and Orchestra), Engagement. Any Business. TROMBONIST, 30, Kensington-place, Brighton.

WANTED, by Bass Trombone, Engagement through disappointment. Competent. Two years last situation. G. BLISS, 159, Beaconsfield-road, Hastings.

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WANTED, by Trombonist, Engagement, any business. Competent and reliable. Liberty through closing.
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WANTED, by Trombone, good all-round experience, Engagement, any Business. Steady and reliable. E. F., 11, St. John's-terrace, King's Lynn.

WANTED, by Bombardon (Experienced), Season Engagement. Seaside preferred. Good refs. Could do Yeomanry Training. J. NOONAN, 9, All Saints-green, Norwich.

WANTED, by Viola, Summer Engagement. Experienced. Excellent references.
VIOLA, 23, Grove-road, Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, by Viola Player (Lady), Good Amateur, Start in Professional Orchestra, for the Season only. Write, Box 7,979, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Viola or Violin, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall. Good references.
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WANTED, by Viola, Seaside Engagement for about Eight Weeks from July 18. Highest references. VIOLA, 11, St. Mary's-square, Kennington, London.

WANTED, by Viola, Engagement. Experienced and Reliable, excellent references. Any Business. Full particulars to GEORGE QUILLIAM, 92, Picton-road, Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Viola or Second Violin, Engagement. Large Experience. Music Hall and Theatre. Add., 3, Catherine-cottages, Holland-park-rd., London, W.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Engagement, Music Hall or Theatre. Excellent refs., Thoroughly Experienced. 'CELLIST, Palace of Varieties, High-st., Southampton.

WANTED, by 'Cellist (Theatre Royal, Barnsley), Engagement, Seaside preferred. Would Deputise. HERBERT MILLS, 29, Spencer-st, Park-grove, Barnsley.

WANTED, by 'Cellist (Experienced), a Good Summer Engagement. Good References. Address, W. KNUSSEN, 33, Beatrice-st., Bootle, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Oboe (Good and Thoroughly Reliable) Re-engagement. Abstainer. Excellent references. Military or Orchestra, latter prefered. CHAPMAN, Glendale, Babbacombe-road, Torquay.

WANTED, by Harpist (Solo), Engagements Concerts, At Homes. Brilliant Selections. Handsome Costumes. Managers Piers write. Miss ADA BRANDON, Writtle, Chelmsford.

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WANTED, by Solo and Orchestral Harpist and Pianist, Summer Engagement. Any Bus. Reliable. Refs. SINCLAIR, 30, Empire-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Harpist and Violinist, Engagement, Good Promenade or Boat Band. Address, J. and F. P. STEWART, 2, Howden-terrace, Leeds

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement or Deputise. Any business. Piccolo soloist. Reliable. PENFOLD, 27, Thistlewaite-road, Lower Clapton, London.

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WANTED, by Flute (Principal), Engagement. Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool. Experienced in all Lines. FRANK M'LOUGHLIN, 61, Kelso-road, Liverpool.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

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WANTED, by Pianist (Orchestral), Seaside Engagement, August and September. Pier, Hotel, or Conductor, Theatre. Modern Library. Box, 7,976, "The Era."

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement. Any Business. Have Portable. Steady, reliable, good references. NEWTON ROBINSON, 1, Dagmar-rd., Windsor.

WANTED, by Pianist (Soloist, Reader, &c.), Experienced, Theatre, Music Hall, or Seaside Engagement. HINCHCLIFFE, 8, Cranbrook-road, Doncaster.

WANTED, by Pianist, First-class Variety (through disappointment), Engagement. Large or Small. Can Conduct. Last Engagement Nine Years. Particulars, LORENZO LEWIS, 744, Oxford-road, Reading.

WANTED, by Pianist (Lady), Engagement, Experienced in Orchestral, Dramatic, and Variety. Good Accompanist. PIANIST, 63, Woodbridge-rd., Ipswich.

WANTED, by Lady Pianist, Dramatic, Variety, or Concert work. Permanent or Touring. Highest refs. Wire, Madam D. RIDGWAY, 3, Crowtree-ter., Sunderland.

WANTED, by Drums, Tympani, &c. (best of refs.), Engagement. At Liberty first time in nine years, owing to change of Management. Good Offers invited. Can combine Advertising. Four and a-half years, T. R., Huddersfield; Five Years, Queen's, Swindon. G. H. BENGE, 146, Prince's-street, Swindon.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, all Effects (Thoroughly Experienced Theatre or Varieties, Military, Orchestral), Engagement. Excellent references BASSO, 137, Blackburn-road, Accrington.

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WANTED, by Double Drummer, all Effects, Engagement, Orchestra or Military. C. BALDWIN, 102, Albert-palace-mansions, Battersea-park.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Engagements. Military preferred. Few Dates open, London and Suburb. DRUMS, Box 7,998, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Ladies' Bands and other Artistes, Engagements. ENTERTAINMENT BUREAU, M. ALDIS, 8, Bedford-terr., Kensington. Tel., 1,824, Kensington.

WANTED, Known, the Famous Old British Guards Band, now at Bradford Exhibition, goes Brighton 27th, till end of August. Open September. The only genuine Ex-Guards Band and most representative one of Great Britain. Splendid Uniform. Large Library, latest Music. HOLMES-DALLIMORE, Ravenscourt-park, W.

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"Littlehampton."

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WANTED, for Reopening, August Bank Holiday, Big Star Turns, Riders, with own Horses; Band, Grooms, Property Man, &c. TUDOR, Daines Farm, Pitsea, Essex.

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CARLISLE.

WANTED, for June 27, Specialities and Novelties of every Description.
Anything that can be done in a Circus Ring.
Ring boarded. Twice Nightly.
Address, C. ALGIE.

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GUERNSEY.
Proprietor, E. SMITH, Esq.

WANTED, for the above, the Best of Acrobats, Gymnasts, Jugglers, Musical Acts, Good Vocalists, Troupes of Dogs—in fact, anything that can be worked on a 40ft. Stage.

State lowest terms
for Immediate and Future Dates,
and when appeared last in Guernsey.

WANTED, Sensational Flying Gymnasts, Jugglers, Lady Novelty Artistes, Trick Cyclists, and Startling Attractions of all Kinds, for Fêtes, August Bank Holiday. Fares paid. Send lowest terms, specimen poster, &c., to MONTGOMERY, 51, Cornwallis-road, Upper Holloway, London.

WANTED, for the Guernsey and Jersey Hippodromes, Lady and Gent. Equestrians, and Artistes in all Lines, for July. All Letters, Address, Mrs H. SLOAN 112, Boulevard Rochechouart, Paris.

HIPPODROME, DOUGLAS, I.O.M.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines (Ring and Stage),
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Full particulars in first letter.
Address, POWELL and CONNOR, Hippodrome, Dublin.

WANTED, all kinds of Equestrians at once for Scandinavia, Switzerland, and Germany. Guise, 27, Bonham-road, Brixton-hill.

WANTED, at once, for Circus Gillaume, Touring Denmark, a First-class Jockey Rider. GUISE, 27, Bonham-road, Brixton-hill, S.E.

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WANTED, for Circus Orlando, Nouköping, Sweden, Great Attractions new to above town. Guise's General Agency, 27, Bonham-road.

WANTED, for Season, May 13 to Sept. 15, 1905, for Circus in Copenhagen, a First-class Rider Family, Clowns, an Aerial Act (flying trapeze), an Arab Troupe, and other Big Attractions. All must be New to above Town. I also want Twenty Young and Tall Ballet Ladies. Guise, Sole Agent for above establishment, 27, Bonham-road, Brixton-hill.

WANTED, for India, sailing Sept. 1, Gentleman Rider, Gymnasts, Ground Acts, Clown, Horse Trainer, and Band of Six Musicians. JENKINS, Stockton-lane, York.

WANTED, for Galas, Acrobats, Gymnasts, and Good Acts of every Description, July 23, 25, Aug. 1, and later. Wood, Caterer, Easton, Bristol.

WANTED, Aug. 1, 2, 15, 19, and 20, Specialities and Aerial Shows in all Lines. Lithos, Memos. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, for Channel Islands, July and August, Bicycle Polo Teams and other Attractive Combinations, also Entertainments complete in themselves, with Good Printing. Sharing Terms. Good business certain. Write, Box 7,990, care of "The Era."

WANTED, for Good Troupe, a Good Gymnast for Flying Trapeze. Age, weight, and photo. required. Contract, with good pay, for 3 years. Address, Box 7,974, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Young Lady, for Gymnastic Show. Small in Stature, or one able to do Little on Trapeze. Good Engagement to Suitable Girl.
ZEDORA, 90, Victoria-street, Ipswich.

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, for Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday),
Big Sensational Specialities;
Big Aerial Act
or Good Troupe of Acrobats;
also
First-class Acts of All Kinds.

James Fioni's Agency,
The Laurels,
Derwent-road, Liverpool.
Telegrams, Fioni, Liverpool.
Telephone, 31, Old Swan.

Lord, Murray, and Lord, De Breans, E. J. Wilkes wire addresses.

WANTED, for Tenting, Male and Female Equestrians, with or without own Horses, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Clowns, Good Bioscope, and Speciality. Artistes will please quote lowest terms, as only a small show, but money certain. Tent-master and Working Stud Groom Required, also a Few Good Grooms and Tent-men. Leader to supply Band also) write.
Address,
D. TAYLOR, Tyolca House, Pontypridd.
N.B.—Will be pleased to hear from a Smart Japanese Troupe.

WANTED, for Numerous Fêtes, August Bank Holiday and Other Dates, Trick Cyclists, Triple Bars, Wire Walkers, Trapeze Performers, Musical Acts, Acrobats, &c. State lowest terms. Rail Fares paid. Enclose lithos.
Sylvester, Royal Agent, 271, Clapham-road, London.

WANTED, for Well-known Troupe, Smart Youth for Acrobats.
One with slight knowledge of Business preferred.
State age, height, weight, and particulars, to
J. BLAY, 6, Sitwell-street, Derby.
P.S.—This is a Good Shop for the Right Boy.

WANTED, Young Man, about Twenty-one Years, to do Comedy Tumbling.
Agouste and Clowning, Circus Boy preferred.
Must have good appearance, and able to speak lines.
State tricks, height, terms, &c.,
Box 7,942, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Smart Boy, Small for Age (Fourteen to Sixteen), who can tumble a little and do Hand-balancing. Good home and pocket-money. DIETRICH, 7, Clayton-square, Liverpool.

WANTED, Boy, Fourteen to Sixteen, Small for Age, that can Tumble and Hand-balance a little. Good home and pocket-money. Offers, Box 7,939, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a Big Show of Wild Animals, for Summer, 1905, in Scandinavia. Must be new to Scandinavia. [Guise's General Agency, 27, Bonham-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Aquatic Entertainments, Turns and Novelties of any description.

Apply,
Box 7,994, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Good Lion Tamer, Black or White, to Join at once. Comfortable Situation to Suitable Man. Address, Biddall's Menagerie; wire, Saturday and Sunday, Romsey; Monday, Eastleigh, Hants.

WANTED, for Lloyd's Circus, a Good, Steady Tentmaster.
Good wages to a reliable man.
Reply to P.O., Waterford.

BOSCO'S TENTING CIRCUS.

WANTED, for above, Tenting Ireland, Good Reliable Stud Groom, and Tentmaster, also Musicians. Must be good at their work, and steady. Long engagement, Summer and Winter. Write, HIPPODROME, Chichester-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London W.C

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED.—Alice Fontainbleau, with her Beautiful Thoroughbred Mare (Haute Ecole and Liberty Act), Stage or Ring; also her Champion Troupe of Trick, Somersault, and High Leaping Dogs, and Globe Act. Fixed for Grand Gala, Sydney, August Bank Holiday. Terms, Marquis of Granby Hotel, Lincoln.

WANTED, Known, Mrs Dudley Smith is at Liberty with Renowned Leaping Act, introducing Mare, Dainty Lass.
Address, 118, Warwick-road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Teddy Saul, All-round Clown and Comedian, with Trick, Comic, and Tumbling Entrées Also Miss Violetta. Two Turns. At Lib. for Circuses, Halls, &c 63, Buchanan-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Bimbo, Clown and Agouste, with Trick and Comic Entrées, at Liberty June 27, for home or abroad. 177, Pershore-road, Selly-park, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Zasma and De Louie, in their Gymnastic Act entitled "Gymnastics on the Lawn;" also Florence Carlow, Serio. Vacant through Royal, Holborn, London, changing hands, June 20, 27, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1 and 8. Wire, E., Wolverhampton; after Saturday, 23, Cazeneau, Liverpool.

WANTED, June 27, July 4, by Alec Aubrey, Unique Gymnast, A Big Star Act.
June 20, Palace, Derby. Agent, Sley.

WANTED.—The Revell Troupe Vacant June 27 and July 4. Big Speciality, Six in Number.

Wire or write, Hippodrome, Coventry.

WANTED, by Great Osmond, Acrobatic Table and Chair Marvel. Vacant July 4 and 11.
Address, Theatre Royal, Rugby.

WANTED, Known, Mons. Duro, the Unrivalled Staircase, Teeth, and Chair Pyramidist, has a few Vacant Dates for Galas, &c. Two Distinct Turns. 55, Portland-street, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Gracio's Trios are Dainty, Graceful, and Accomplished Contortionists and Acrobats, their Pedestal and Somersault Work being Picturesque and Smart.

WANTED, by Young Man, doing Few Tricks on Triple Bars, Engagement with Troupe.
Address, Box 7,999, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagements for Airship Flights.
Balloon Ascents, One to Six Balloons;
Parachute Descents, by Ladies or Gentlemen
(from Gas Balloons or Hot-air Balloons);
Captive Balloons, ascending 1,000ft.
Terms upon application,
SPENCER BROTHERS, Limited,
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.,
45B, Aberdeen-park, Highbury, London, N.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

ABERDEEN and DUNDEE
PALACE VARIETY THEATRES.
Booked in Conjunction with the Livermore Tour.

WANTED, Known, to Artists. The above Theatres closed June 4.
Reopen July 18.
Silence in the meantime a respectful negative.
ERNEST SHELDON, Director.

Scotch Tour.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artistes,
Tivoli, Glasgow;
Queen's, Glasgow;
Palace, Kilmarnock.
All can offer Twelve Weeks, W. F. Frame Tour.
Full List of Bookings, terms, &c.,
Barney Armstrong,
Tivoli Theatre,
Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, for Terries Theatre (Early Turns), Sept. 5, 12, 19. Address, with full particulars, to NEWMAN MAURICE, Terries Theatre, S.E.

WANTED, Variety Artistes of every description, for Aug. 15 and 22, for King's Theatre, Walton-on-Naze. F. BOULT N, 138, Hamilton rd., Liverpool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Variety Artistes in all Lines,
Tops of Bill, Star Turns.
Pantomime Artistes write in.
Good Top (Comedienne) for Aug. 8.
Can always place really Good Turns.
Good Dramatic Comedy Sketch for July 18.
Apply, with full particulars, to
H. Rose and Co.,
H. Rose and Co.,
H. Rose and Co.,
6, Duke-street, Adelphi, W.C.
6, Duke-street, Adelphi, W.C.
Telephone, 6,690 Gerrard.

N.B.—Percy Vere and Edith Royal communicate.
Mr Rose Returns to Town Monday, June 20.

GOOD TEMPLARS' HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
Instituted 1869.
Season, from Sept. 3, 1904, till March 25, 1905.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, to Send Vacant Dates and Lowest Terms. Three Halls. A Turn of Fifteen to Twenty Minutes in each. Conveyances provided between the Halls. All communications addressed to Mr WILLIAM BIGGAM, Musical Secretary, 126, Hotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artistes in all Lines (or Combinations), Aug. 1, onwards, Two Performances Nightly, no Fancy Salaries, for Cradley Theatre, Cradley Heath, which will be henceforth known as "The Empire." Address, MONTON.

IRISH TOUR.
TIVOLI, DUBLIN;
PALACE, CORK;
ALHAMBRA, BELFAST.

WANTED, Artists, Stars, Good Novelties, Serios, Comedians, Comedy Sketches, Acrobats, Jugglers, New and Novel Acts.
Will Sley, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and future Dates. Lessee and Manager, WM. MOULD. Central Palace, North Shields.

Telephone 0,451.
Telegrams, "Wizardlike, Northampton."
THE NEW PALACE THEATRE,
NORTHAMPTON.
Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr FRED H. ANDERSON.
By the courtesy of Mr Anderson
W. Goodwin Woodward,
the Resident Acting-Manager,
will take his
Complimentary Benefit
on Friday, June 24.

WANTED, Artistes willing and in a position to appear to kindly write to Mr Fred Stephens. Address as above.

WANTED, Artistes, Single and Double Turns, Two Weeks, July 4, 18, 25, Aug. 22. Living Novelties and Prodigies can open at once.
CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxwork Exhibition, Dublin.

WANTED, Artistes in All Lines, from now on.
Apply, Mr SCOTT, Empire Music Hall, Wrexham.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes, new to Doncaster and Mexborough, for Oct. 17, Nov. 7. Good Serio, Sisters, Comedians, Musical Turn, and a First-class Speciality Act for Christmas Week. Good Top of Bill Act. Artistes, Acts of every description, submit Vacant Dates, Terms, Lithos., to
George Burton
(Variety Agent, of Sheffield),
21, Palatine-road, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes, all Lines, June 27th, onwards.
State Terms.
EDGAR STEBBINGS,
23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, for Gala near Leeds, Aug. 29th and 30th. Lowest in first letter.
Address, 6, Oxford-terrace, Harrogate.

WANTED, Variety Artistes in all Lines, June 27, onwards.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines
Madame Ponchery's Circus,
Cradley-heath, Staffs.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines for June 27 and on. Lowest combination terms to
HUGH DEMPSEY, 42, Crowtree-road, Sunderland.

WANTED, Artistes, Anything which can Follow Marie Loftus, Elliotts and Savonas, Maggie Duggan, &c.—in fact, anything big, for Liverpool, Manchester, Bolton, Rochdale, St. Helens, Warrington, Ashton, Wigan, Leeds, York, Barrow, Stoke, Derby, Grimsby, Dudley, Northampton, Coventry, &c., New Brighton, Morecambe, Blackpool, &c. Artistes out June 20 and 27 wire or write sharp. Jess Verno's Agency, 13, Seymour-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal. Absolutely First-class Sisters write.

WANTED, for America, Several Liliputian Artistes not over 4ft. high (must be perfect), either Musical or Acrobats, or Scratch Performers Engagement would be for Six Months or a Year. Good Salary, and Travelling Expenses from London to New York, and Fortnight's Salary in Advance on Signing of Contract.
Send full particulars to Kelson Trueman,
Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Grand Reopening, June 20. Q. G., finishes To-night Two Weeks' Tremendous Success Grand, Doncaster, Own Company; also supplying
Full Company next week,
and Booked to Return Race Week to see the King.
Rehearsal Monday for all Engaged,
Grand, Doncaster,
Pier Pavilion, and Hippo., Scarborough.
QUINTON GIBSON.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines for June 20, and onwards, Fred Durham's Agency. 'Phone, 2,477 Hop. 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, S.W.

WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, Stars, and Novelties, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. State lowest terms, &c.
Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, Morecambe.
Late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c.
Telegrams, "Value, Morecambe."

WANTED, Artistes in All Lines with immediate and later Dates Vacant to communicate with Cavill and Co., 15, Hotham-street, Liverpool
Telegrams, "Overture, Liverpool." Telephone, 2 140 Royal.

HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS VARIETIES, DEWSBURY
General Manager, GEORGE WELDON.
Closing to-night, June 18, till July 25

WANTED, Artistes for Aug. 1, 15, Sept. 5, and forward dates. Must be good, and Comedians free from vulgarity. Artistes who are unknown to the Manager will oblige where they can be seen performing the next few weeks, as he will not engage any in future without first doing so

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-rate Artistes,
June 27 and July 4 (North)
Performers suitable for Gala,
July 23, write.
Silence in all cases a polite negative.

G. and F. Peel,
42, Granville House Arundel-street, W.C.

GRAND, HANLEY.

WANTED, All Artistes Holding Contracts for the above place to kindly note that Hanley is the centre of the Staffordshire Potteries, which consists of a cluster of the following towns:—
Burslem, one a-half miles from Hanley; Longton, about three miles; Stoke, about one mile; Fenton, about two and a-half; Newcastle, about two; and Tunstall, about three miles.

All Artistes holding Contracts for Hanley are requested to carefully read the distance clause in their Contracts, which will be strictly adhered to.
Signed,
CHAS. G. ELPHINSTONE.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.

WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession.
Acts New in Dublin for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland.
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09,144.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Stars in All Lines from June 27 onwards, for
Ashton, Warrington, St. Helens, and Liverpool.
Write or wire,
F. WILLMOT,
Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool.

WANTED, Stars in all Lines, from Aug. 1,
for
Newcastle and Gateshead.
Address, SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and Particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Aug. 1, onwards,
Big Stars and Novelties for the
Hippodromes, Bedford and Luton.
Nothing too big. Must be Clean and Refined.
Wanted, Good Animal Acts,
also First-class Continental Turns.
Lowest terms, &c., to
the Sole Agent for the above,
Edward Cranston, Variety Agent,
6, Chandos-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

GRAND THEATRE OF
VARIETIES,
MANCHESTER.
Messrs THOMAS BARRASFORD and WILL SLEY.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Star
Turns
and
Novel
Acts.
WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for Blackpool and Morecambe,
Star Turns, Big Novelties,
for June 27,
and July, August, and September.
Big Acts. Price no Object.
Acrobats, Wire Acts, Trapeze, Sketches.
Jugglers, Dog Shows, Comedy Acts, Musical Clowns,
Bar Performers, Comedy Quartette,
Bicycle Troupe, and Any New Novelty.
Lithos., photos., price to
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Star Turns for Seaside
and
Every Hall of Note
in the Provinces
for
Immediate Dates.
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Star Turns and Specialities for
London and Provinces.
Full particulars, Dates, and terms to the Old Firm.
Day's Variety Agency,
116, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Smart Variety Turn, open Mon, Theatre, Kettering; Variety Turns for Aug. 15 and 22. Add., till Sun., 10, Spring-gardens, Doncaster; after, New Theatre, Kettering.

WANTED, Good Comic Knockabout Turns, Dancers, Sisters, and all classes of Specialities that can be done on Small Stage. Salary sure, but must be low. Address, T. M. PAUL, Empire Theatre, New Shildon, Durham. N.B.—This is a First-class Portable.

WANTED, £20 to £100 Acts. Those not Booked Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, and Aberdeen write for Dates, 1905 6,
Geo. Ayton, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E.
Telegraphic address, "Antics, London."
'Phone, 1,049 Hop.

WANTED, Acts of all Kinds, for June 27, July 4, 11, 18. Lithos and particulars, LEO FRITZ, Hippo., Blackpool; Tuesday, Winter Gardens, Southport.

WANTED, for Amsterdam, Funny Knockabout Acts, who are willing to accept a decent salary, as Hall not very large. Guise, 27, Bonham-road, Brixton-hill, S.W.

WANTED, August Bank Holiday,
Real
Big
Draw
for Fête,
Victoria-park,
Royal Leamington Spa.

Apply,
C. S. BIRCH,
Director of Public Music.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-class Vaudeville Companies,
to open June 20 or 27,
the Concert Hall,
Midlands Exhibition, Nottingham,
and Olympia, Scarborough,
on Sharing Terms.
Send full particulars to
CHAS. I. KIRALFY,
Exhibition, Trent Bridge, Nottingham.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Outdoor Attractions
and
Sensational Acts,
to Perform in the Pleasure Gardens
of the
Midlands Exhibition, Nottingham.
Send Open Dates, terms, and particulars to
CHAS. I. KIRALFY,
Exhibition, Trent Bridge, Nottingham.

WANTED, Good Specialities, at all Times Give Two Weeks' address Just Booked Grieve, Three Dates; Saunders, Two Dates; Brady, one Date. Address, M'ASKELL, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Refined Specialities, Monday, onwards; Musical Turns, &c.
ARTHUR G. HART, West Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, Specialities of all Kinds.
Address, with lowest terms and vacancies,
H. Pearson, 23, Cazneau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Specialities and Star Artist for Southport and Barrow-in-Furness, July 4 and 11. State absolute lowest Summer terms, and when last in Southport and Barrow. No commission stopped. Address, WALTER F. MUNROE, Hippodrome, Liverpool, June 20; Saturday, 18th, wire, Tivoli, Birmingham.

THEATRE ROYAL,
LIVERPOOL.

WANTED, Good Combinations, June 27,
July 4 and 11.
Reply, as above

WANTED, Good Variety Combination Company for June 27, July 4, and on.
CHAPMAN, Grand Theatre and Empire, Doncaster.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS, CORK.

WANTED, High-class Attractions, Variety Companies, Minstrels and Pantomime Company. Bands and Concert Parties, Latest Novelties. On Share or Rental. Apply to ALEX. M'KWAN, Secretary.

WANTED, Small Sketch Party, with Répertoire of Good Sketches. T. M. PAUL Empire Theatre (Portable). New Shildon, Durham.

WANTED, Young Lady Step-Dancer. State age, height, send photos. (to be returned); also an Acrobatic Dancer. DIRECTOR, 31, Borough-road, Birkenhead.

WANTED, two Hypnotic Subjects, must have been really Hypnotised or no use. Apply, PROF. INMAN HOCKING, Banner-road, Bristol.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

COLLINS' HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
COLLINS' HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.

Sole and Responsible Proprietor, Mr P. COLLINS.
Sole and Responsible Proprietor, Mr P. COLLINS.

The only Variety Theatre in the Potteries.

Packed Twice Nightly at 7 0 and 9 0
with Delighted Audiences,
the Elite of the District.
The Theme of Conversation everywhere.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Immediately,
Comic Vocalists, Acrobats,
Lady Artistes, Bar Performers,
the Highest Class of Sentimental Vocalists,
Gymnasts, Over Stage Aerial Shows, Dog Troupes, &c.

Read this!
Artistes in all Lines are especially reminded they can have Immediate and reasonably distant Dates. They are not asked to accept them in the next century, with the sole idea of excluding them from this district until then.

Monday, June 20, and on,
John Lawson, with "Humanity;"
Dave Hallie, Othello, the Coloured Hercules;
Pat Carey, Chrissie Florence, Sisters Llewelyn,
the Animatograph,
Mdlle. Roma and Piccaninnies, &c.

Rehearsal Monday at 12 30.
Collins' Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent,
Twice Nightly,
7 0 and 9 0.
Twice Nightly,
7 0 and 9 0
The only Variety Theatre in the Potteries.

Sole and Responsible Proprietor, Mr P. COLLINS.
Sole and Responsible Proprietor, Mr P. COLLINS.

General Manager,
FRANK EGERTON,
to whom address all communications.

M. Chester and Co.,
M. Chester and Co.,
M. Chester and Co.,
Variety, Dramatic, and Circus Agents,
Variety, Dramatic, and Circus Agents,
Variety, Dramatic, and Circus Agents,
13, Oxford-street, Manchester.
13, Oxford-street, Manchester.
13, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Big Novelties, Star Comedians, Bar Performers, Musical Acts,
Duettists, Jugglers, Bicycle Troupes,
Acrobats, Dog Shows.
Photos. and lithos., with price, to
M. Chester and Co.,
13, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Amusements, Manchester."

WANTED, for Grand Music Hall, Bolton, Novelties of
Every Description.
Address,
J. F. ELLISTON.

WANTED, for First-class Continental, Variety Theatres, Novelties and Attractions.
Guise, General Agent, 27, Bonham-rd., Brixton-hill, S.W.

WANTED, for Kendal Gala, Tuesday, Aug. 2d, 1904, Open Air Novelties. State Performance and Inclusive Price, before June 27th, to the Secretary, W. SCALES, 30, Lowther-street, Kendal.

WANTED, Big Attractions, for Gothenburg, Sweden, from 1st of October. Must be new to above town. Guise's General Agency, 27, Bonham-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Girls for Speciality Act. Those with knowledge of Dancing Preferred. State experience, age, height, and terms in first letter.
A. JOHNSON,
29, Richmond-road, Kensington, London, W.

Pavilion Entertainers, Baxter-park, Dundee,
Fourth Successful Week.

WANTED, Comedians, Specialities, Double-handed Artistes, Vocalists, &c., open June 27.
MONTAGUE and VULCARIS, Proprietors.

WANTED, August, Star Comedian or Comedienne. Holiday terms One Performance Nightly. FRED POLLARD, Marina, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Refined Comedians. Must sing well. Open July 2 and later. Lowest terms, HARRY COLLINS, Elysian-grove, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Smart, Funny Comedian for Established Al Fresco Troupe with Good and Refined Répertoire. One able to Produce Sketches. State age and salary. Also good straight Man (Vocalist) used to Gags and Sketches. Write, Box 7,996, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Al Fresco, Comedian, also Society Entertainer, to run Pierrot Troupe, taking Third Share, which realises about £7 each weekly. Private Ground. Stage, Chairs, and everything ready. Open July 4th. Each Partner must invest £12
Letters, Box 7,992, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a Young Lad, Nice Appearance; must be Fourteen Years; must Sing Well;
Small Figure; Read and Write Well.
A Good Home for a Respectable Lad,
who would like to Learn Variety Business.
Everything Found. Send references and photos, if any, to Box 7 977, "The Era" Office, London.

WANTED, Artists to please notice Change of Address, J. C. Bloom, Agent for the M.H.A.R.A., Wheatsheaf Hotel, King Edward-street, Hull. First-class Smokes, Rooms. "The Era," &c., taken

WANTED, Artistes holding Engagements Alhambra, Belfast, to write in Fourteen Days before Opening. H. T. DOWNS, Manager.

WANTED, all Artists Engaged for Theatre Royal or Olympia, Bury to Note the Variety Season will End on Saturday, June 25, and will recommence on Oct. 3, all Contracts between those Two Dates being Cancelled, according to Clause therein. All Applications for Future Dates to be made to
OTTO C. CULLING, Theatre Royal, Bury.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Vacant for Immediate Dates, Tops of Bills, Novelties, and all kinds of Big Attractions.
Wire, "Bravissimo, London;"
Paris: H. B. MARINELLI, London.
'Ring up, 5,718, Central.

WANTED, Known, Gracie Bard Vacant Monday. A vocalist and dancer sure to please. One you can hear and understand. Address, 20, King-street, Burnley.

WANTED, by Miss Nora M'Evoy, Great Vocalist, Comedienne, and Burlesque Actress, Six Nights Monday next. 50, Vernon-st., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Florrie Claribell, Tyrolean Vocalist and Clever Top-Boot Dancer, Cut for Monday. Wire, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, Billy Matthews, Comedian, at Liberty for Season. Good Voice, Sketches, Gags, &c. Al Fresco. Age Twenty-eight. Hippodrome, Cowes, Isle of Wight.

WANTED, Known, Percy Maye has One Week Open, June 25. Thanks for Offers. No other Summer Vacancies. Wire, Wire, for an Attraction, Queen's Palace, Rhyl, Two Weeks' Return.

WANTED, by Alec Aubrey, Astounding Gymnast, June 27, July 4.
Next Week, Return, Palace, Derby.

WANTED, Known, George Nixon, the Original Comic Dwarf. Tremendous Success, James's Waxworks, Dublin. Offers invited for July 11 and 18.

WANTED, by Leslie H. Murray, Magician and Card Manipulator, July 4 and 11.
Address, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

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WANTED, July 11 and Aug. 1, Sept. 12, onwards, the Great Original Kyoto in his Marvellous and Mysterious Comedy Japanese Act; also Miss May Geraldine, Chic Comedienne and Dancer. Enormous success, Gatti's, Monday (second week); E., Shepherd's-bush, to follow. Wire or write, 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-terrace, London, S.E.; or, Agent, Mr E. De Vere.

WANTED, Known, Kardoc, Jail Breaker, Handcuff King; also Marie Ellis. Lithos. Free June 27, on. One or Both See Card.

WANTED, Known, Will Bell, Comedian and Dancer, and Ida Dalton, Serio, at Liberty Monday next; also June 27. Wire, Gaiety, Oldham.

WANTED, Monday next, by Dave Wallace, Eccentric Comedian; Marie Tilley, Vocalist, Speciality Dancer. Two Safe Turns. Wire, Hippo., Cowes, I.O.W.

WANTED, Monday Next and 27, by Charles Tempest, Eccentric Comedian, also Miss Ida Fair. Wire, one or both. 97B Green-lane, Walsall.

WANTED, Monday next, June 20, 27, by Bob Pearson, the Refined Vocal Comedian, Humourist, and Coon Impersonator; also Lily Pender, Great Speciality Comedienne. Wire, Queen's Palace, Poplar, London.

WANTED, June 20, 27, by Bateman and Bell (Fred and Flora), in their Big Comedy Novelty Act, introducing Songs, with 'Cello Accompaniments. A Star Speciality Turn. Wire, People's Palace, Portsmouth; or, 112, St. James's-road, Southsea.

WANTED, Known, the Delmars, Vocal and Patter Comedians, Dis. Monday and June 27, through misunderstanding. Wire, 58, Kennington-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Les Valdos, the Great Acrobatic Eccentrics, Disengaged June 27. Clough Hall, Harecastle.

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WANTED, Monday Next June 27, July 4, by Rena and Rex, in a New Musical Duologue. Smart, Funny, Refined. Wire, Grand, Doncaster.

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WANTED, Notice, Parez Trio (Ladies), Refined, Clever, Musical Act. Handbell Experts. Free for Five Weeks, June 27. Write, Guiness's Gals, Dublin. No Act just like ours.

WANTED, June 27 and July 4, the Rushforths, Song Illustrators; and King Leo, Ventriloquist. Two Acts. Hippodrome, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Known.—Owing to Change of Date with Mr Stoll, the Stavordale Quintette Free June 20. Wire, "Stavordale, London."

WANTED, Monday next and 27th, Gillin, Ventriloquist and Bioscope, War and Comic Pictures. Wire to Theatre, Longton.

"FOR KING AND COUNTRY."

WANTED, Known, Tom Herman's Patriotic Naval and Military Spectacle. Tremendous Success, Empire, Wrexham, Third Week.

WANTED, Few Farly and Late Pookings. Salary or share. Re-engaged Blackpool, Morecambe, Southport, Skegness, &c. Mr Harry Liston and Miss Lord Lumley's "Merry Moments." Egyptian Hall, London.

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EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
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Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
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Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
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EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Two Performances Nightly, at 6·50 and 9·0.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
W. C. Fields, Oswald Sisters, Bert Brantford, Vi Holmes, Little Fred, May Lillian Levey, Howard and St Clair, Devona Sisters, Hamilton Hill, Barowsky Trio.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
The Boissetts, Lilian Bishop, Frank Seeley, Dan Crawley, Mr and Mrs Findon, Syd May, Foreman and Fannon, Lillie Soutter, Jackson Family, Les Durvals, Newhouse and Ward,

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for
Marie Loftus, Wilson Hallett, J. W. Rickaby, Orpheus, Sisters Lunelle, Norman-Leonard Trio, Lawrence Barclay, William Lee and Co., Four Elysians, Northern Troupe, Beattie Renee, Mdlle. Lagreze.

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Harry Lauder, Alexandra Edwin, Katie Butler, Edwin Barwick, Cullen and Carthy, Pueblo Brothers, Happy Fanny Fields, Max Renard's Dogs, American Comedy Four, Norman French, New York Nippers, Adonis Trio.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal, at 1·30 o'clock, for
R. G. Knowles, W. H. Liddy, Maud Rose, Starr and Leslie, Guy Ryder, Ross and Grayson, Flo D'Orville, Harry Freeman, Will Mitcham, Henry Taylor Trio, Nellie Wallace.

EMPIRE THEATRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
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EMPIRE THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Minnie Palmer, Hart and Leo, Brown-Kelly Company, Belle Davis and Pics, Ada Cerito, Seeley and West, Phillippi Bros., Sisters Pine, E. W. Selman, the Leonards.

EMPIRE THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Little Tich, Vasco, Burns and Evans, Lew Wells, Slade Murray, Johnny Johnston, Alexandre and Bertie, Georgina Leonard, Frank Lynne, Chas. F. Best.

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Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
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PAVILION, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Howard and Collinson, Imperial Boys, Geo. Leyton, Twin Andersons, Mr and Mrs Lucas, A. Gill, Lizzette Troupe, Elsie Rubini, Pictures, Joe Archer, and Howard and Harris.

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TIVOLI, LEEDS.
Bonhair Gregory, Harry Barker, Nelly Vonare, Jack and Evelyn, A. G. Spry, Luppu Trio, Walton and Lester, Musical Silvo, La and Do, Pictures, Paulton and Dooley, Clara Victor.

GRAND, MANCHESTER.
Heram, Will English, Farley, Rennie, and Farley, Dale and O'Malley, Wallnoss Musical Act, Will Godwin, Dion Wade, Pictures, Beatrice Bonnie, Nora Ranson, Tom Le May.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BRISTOL.
Jacques Inaudi, J. A. Cassels, Harry Tate, Downes and Langford, Rex Fox, Corty Brothers, Dunedin Troupe, Thos. E. Finglass, Queen Le Brunn, Pictures, Sam Mayo.

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These Films are now being exhibited at the Palace Theatre, London, and a Special Arrangement has been entered into that these Films shall not be shown within a mile radius of this Theatre. They will therefore be sold on this understanding.

No. 1,002. ARRIVAL OF THE CHEMULPO HEROES.—It will be recalled that the warships Varyag and Koreietz were sunk near Chemulpo. The Czar is shown in this picture passing down the lines, inspecting such of the crews as were saved on their return to St. Petersburg. The sailors of the same two boats are then seen marching past the Czar (who is in the picture all the time) in the grounds of the Winter Palace, St. Petersburg.

No. 1,003. REVIEW OF SHARPSHOOTERS BY THE CZAR AT TSARKOE-SELO.—Open-air Mass, showing His Imperial Majesty taking the Sacrament; and benediction of the flags before the Czar. March-past of the troops. His Majesty the Czar before the Palace of Tsarkoe-Selo, bidding adieu and saying a few parting words to the officers leaving for the theatre of war.

No. 1,004 REVIEW OF TROOPS LEAVING FOR THE FAR EAST.—His Imperial Majesty the Czar and his General Staff passing before the Grenadiers' flag and saluting, passing down the lines, the Czar and Escort passing close in front of the camera. The Czar drinking to the health of the troops and addressing them. March-past of the troops.

No. 1,005. THE LAST REVIEW IN MAY AT THE WINTER PALACE, ST. PETERSBURG.—Their Imperial Majesties passing before the troops. March-past of the celebrated Pawlowsky Regiment, the Artillery and Cavalry (Cuirassiers and Hussars) before his Imperial Majesty. Total length, 1,500ft. Price £37 10s. Code word, "Czarina." A half-length of each subject, including all the most interesting portions, is also for sale. Length, 750ft. Price £18 15s. Code word, "Pawlowsky." We claim that this is far and away the most interesting set of pictures relating to the present war that has yet been Cinématographed. We have not pestered our clients with promises of good stuff to come, week by week, but we have got the good stuff all the same.

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MR. LEONARD PAGDEN, as Aubrey Tanqueray, Mon., Tues., Wed., and Wed. Matinée, June 27, 28, 29, County Theatre, Kingston

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MR. and MRS. E. H. PATERSON (Miss Adelaide Grace) Disengaged. Address, Hillcrest, Southdean-gardens, Wimbledon-park, S.W.

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MR. HARRY H. RIGNOLD Re-engaged by J. F. Preston, Esq., for his original part of Isaacs, in "Rogues of the Turf." Standard T., London.

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MR. FRANK SHERLOCK, Re-engaged by Wm. Greet, Esq., for Autumn. Disengaged Christmas. Allendale, Thanet-road, Margate.

MR. EDWARD SIDNEY, Comedy and Character, Disengaged. Address, 112, Olney-street, Walworth-road, London, S.E.

MR. FRED SINCLAIR, Own Sketch. Metropole Theatre, Manchester.

MR JAMES SKEA, Character Actor, Disengaged June 25, Summer, Autumn, Panto. 10, King-street, Covent-garden, London.

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MR. HARRY STARR, Carl, Otto, Schwenk. June 27, Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

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MR. J. HENRY TWYFORD, of the Court Theatre, Disengaged July 9 and Autumn. Town or Tour. 1, Holland-villas-road, W.

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MR. HERBERT VYVYAN, Character and Comedy, at Liberty now and for Autumn. 1, Cowley-mansions, Cowley-road, Brixton.

MR. EDWIN WALTON, Wang Hai, "Alone in China." June 27, Opera House, Northampton.

MR. PERCY CARNE WARAM, as the Biggest Scamp on Earth, Dalston Theatre, N.E.

MR. ALBERT WARD, Concluded Star Lead, "Never-Never Land." Disengaged. 23, Graham-road, N.E.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE Disengaged for Autumn. 47, Algiers-road, Ladywell, S.E.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY, Manager for John F. Sheridan. G. P. O., Durban (S. A.).

MR. A. E. WYN WEAVER. Address, 10, King-street, W.C.

MR. CHARLES WEIR. Address, 12, Angel-road, Hammersmith.

MR. C. A. WHITE, Comedian and Stage-Manager. Unexpectedly at Liberty; also Autumn. Park House, Harewood-road, Merton, S.W.

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MR. AYLMER J. WILLIAMS. Aristocratic Old Men and Character, Disengaged. Address, 28, Victoria-street, Manningham-lane, Bradford.

MR. H. LEONARD WILLIAMS thanks Miss Gladys Rees for wire. Disengaged for few Weeks. Burkelands, Carlisle-road, Hove, Brighton.

MR. GEORGE WILLOUGHBY, Touring Australasia with own Company. Letters, Messrs Harvey and Harvey, Solicitors, Southsea.

MR. FRANK WILSON. Address, 10, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

MR. A. WOOD Address, 59, St. Mary's-road, Peckham, S.E.

MR. FRANK MOTLEY WOOD Vacant for Few Weeks. Displays great ability.—Brighton Gazette. Address, Savoy Theatre.

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MR. HENRY WRIGHT Disengaged Autumn. Other Arrangements complete. 41, Hazelbourne-road, Balham-hill, S.W.

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MR. LIONEL YEOMAN Terminates To-night with Mr R. L. Symon's Répertoire. Disengaged Autumn. Care of Actors' Association.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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Empire Theatre, Cardiff. May 18, 1904.

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Yours truly,
(Signed) VI HOLMES.
Messrs Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Co., 6, Argyll-street, Regent-street, W.

"A Lion's Heart" Company, His Majesty's Theatre, Dundee, June 6, 1904.

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"THE WISDOM OF FOLLY."

Mr Cosmo Hamilton's comedy, in three acts, *The Wisdom of Folly* was produced at the Comedy Theatre in October, 1902, and Messrs Isbister now publish the piece in the form of a novel. As we have already pointed out in our columns, the mainstay of the story is Mrs Rose, a fluffy-minded lady who flirts outrageously throughout with three elderly suitors, Admiral Sir John Bellasis, Colonel Sir Alexander Trumble, and Mr Montague Shand-Shand, representing the services—naval, military, and civil. Each of these gentlemen, during the life-time of Mr Rose who is judicially separated from the fluffy-minded one, persuades her to sign a promise that she will not marry the others. We may quote the courting of the military knight as a fair specimen of Mr Hamilton's gaiety and smartness:—

"'Mrs Rose,' said the colonel, with the unscrupulous air of a man who breaks things, 'you are a woman.'

"Mrs Rose gathered her skirts round her, and said with the slightest shade of apology—

"'It is a matter in which I had no voice, colonel.'

"'Therefore you will understand that things can't go on as they are.'

"The colonel's fierce, unbending manner sent a thrill of impending discovery through Mrs Rose.

"'My dear colonel,' she said, with her large eyes full of genuine innocence and very well simulated indignation. 'What things? You talk as though you were a cook who wants higher wages.'

"The colonel disregarded her domestic touch.

"'There is no Lady Trumble,' he said, glaring down upon her. 'That you know.'

"'You have always led me to believe so; but really nowadays, with the papers always full of bigamy and things . . . .'

"'Some day I expect there will be a Lady Trumble. *That* you know.'

"'Oh, colonel!'

"The colonel hurried on, 'I am not methodistical. I have no Nonconformist conscience, though, thank God, I have my vices.'

"'Amen,' said Mrs Rose, shutting her eyes.

"'But the admiral—Bellasis, Jack Bellasis.'

"Mrs Rose's eyes opened full of affectionate reminiscence.

"'The dear admiral!'

"Both the colonel's little feet left the ground for a moment. Jealousy is the next best thing to a gymnasium.

"'That's where it is,' he cried, once again on solid earth. 'The dear admiral! You have been his partner now at every game of whist for a fortnight.'

"'He has such a clever way of letting one know when he wants one to trump,' she said, hoping he had noticed nothing else.

"'Nevertheless, things can't go on. You may like these sea-dog callous ways. I do not. I can't understand it; but the fact remains. Women find the salt about a man very palatable. It's a condiment they can't resist.'

"Mrs Rose declined to accept the imputation.

"'Any one would think,' she said, indignantly, 'that the admiral was a salad.'

"The colonel waved his hand. 'I do not feel safe. I know women.'

"'My *dear* colonel,' Mrs Rose's expression can be imagined.

"'I have served my country in England, Scotland, and Ireland, to say nothing of Jersey, during the flower of my life. I am not a general. That you know. The fact is, Mrs Rose, that women are women, and I need assurance.'

"With great dignity, and with trembling lips, Mrs Rose stood up.

"'Women may be women, poor things, but I do not deserve to have it thrown in my teeth. My dear Mr Rose, poor darling. . . . *Have* you a handkerchief?'

"The colonel found his yard of silk under the seat, and again gave it to her, relenting somewhat at the sight of her tears.

"'The dear admiral. That's where it is.'

"'Well,' said Mrs Rose, drying her eyes, 'I respect the admiral. He is one of the flagstones in the pillar of England's supremacy, and he has been good to me—a poor woman who cannot be a widow. Besides he is a sailor.'

"'The condiment! What did I say?' cried the colonel.

"'But as to my regarding him, or any man, in the light in which I regard you. . . .'

"'Give me a guarantee,' said the colonel.

"'My word of honour,' replied Mrs Rose with grandeur.

"'You are a woman.'

"'And is a woman no relation to honour?'

"'No blood relation.'

"Mrs Rose sat down again. 'You mean that for sarcasm; but I understand your nature, and will pass it over. Remember, I have played whist with you during the whole of my period of solitude; I cannot take offence. Dear colonel, let the sweet balm of peace heal your agitation. Rely upon me.'

"'I have never held with special correspondents, but I am a great believer in black and white. Sign this.'

"The colonel dragged out a paper from his skin-tight pocket and presented it to Mrs Rose.

"Mrs Rose took it, unfolded it carefully, and read it aloud—

"To Colonel Sir Alexander Trumble, K.C.B. On the much-to-be-deplored departure of Mr Rose, I promise on no account whatever to marry Admiral Sir John Bellasis, K.C.B. (retired). Signed. . .

"'Blank. How very funny!'

"'Will you fill in the blank?'

"All sign of amusement left Mrs Rose's well-cut features.

"'If any other man had asked me to do this for him, I would have indignantly refused. But you. Who can resist *your* winning ways? Call Minch for a pen.'"

Nevertheless, in spite of her assertion, Mrs Rose does sign similar promises made to the admiral and Mr Shand-Shand. Mr Rose meets with an accident, and is killed. On his will being read, it turns out that the widow will lose the whole of her income unless she be married in a week. The colonel, the admiral, and the civil service official are all sent post haste to the village registry office—"the ivy-covered cottage squeezed in between the Angler's Arms and the undertaker's with the licence to sell tobacco." Mr Marriott Eliot, the solicitor who is acting for her, however, decides that the widow cannot marry either of these claimants to her hand. "Having promised the colonel never to marry the admiral, the admiral never to marry Mr Shand-Shand, and Mr Shand-Shand never to marry the colonel, these three gentlemen are disqualified."

The difficulty is got over by Mr Eliot himself, who has procured a licence, and the fluffy-minded lady, who is saved the trouble of going to "the village to find a man," will retain the property of her first husband by becoming Mrs Eliot. The book is full of amusing passages, and is pleasantly satirical throughout. The characters of Norah Chitty and Arthur Caldecott provide a bright opening chapter, but have little further to do with the story.

AT the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Nuneaton, this week, Mr Charles March and company is paying a visit with *The Priest of the Temple*, which is proving highly attractive. The principal characters are portrayed with much ability by Mr Chas. March as Valerius, Miss Evelyn Hope, Polita, and Miss Marie North, Praestantia; and Mr Whit. Rogerson's impersonation of Alertius calls forth many smiles. The remaining parts are in good hands. The costumes are rich and costly, and the scenery very picturesque.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER HERR PROFESSOR."
Operetta, in Three Acts by Béla Von Uji.
Produced at the New Royal Opera, June 18.

Venarius	Herr ALBES
Ludmilla	Fräulein WERBER
Barbara	Fräulein HASTERT
Roderich	Herr GOLWIG
Dr. Runkel	Herr BANDELOW
Stefana	Frau GUNTHER
Lorenz	Herr KNAACK
Agathe	Fräulein HALM
Krapsenbacher	Herr VOIGT
Aloisia	Fräulein PAUL
Mueller	Fräulein LIEBAN
Meier	Fräulein WEISS
Ione	Fräulein VETTORI
Glaucus	Herr ALBES
Pansa	Herr VOIGT
Sporus	Herr BANDELOW
Nydia	Fräulein WERBER
Sklavin	Fräulein HASTERT

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, JUNE 23. — A cordial reception was accorded to the new work of Herr Von Uji, the Hungarian composer, who, young as he is, is unhappily deprived of his sight. The book is the work of Victor Léon, who is well versed in the art of libretto-writing. It is better than the usual run of operetta plots, and is as follows: Professor Roderich Venarius lives with his uncle at Olmütz. Both men are masters at the grammar school there; the elder is about to start for Pompeii for some important excavations, and the younger is more excited about it than his uncle. Roderich is determined to obtain a holiday and go too; he dreams of buried cities by day and by night, and lives in the hopes of making wonderful discoveries. His cousin Ludmilla is in love with Roderich, who rather slights her, charming though she is. Man proposes, but schoolboys dispose in this case. The Herr Professor has been over-strict with his charges, and several of them combine to "pay him out" with some opium cigarettes as a parting gift. Roderich smokes one before leaving home, falls into a deep sleep, and dreams of Pompeii. The most astonishing things happen in the dream—which passes before our eyes. The professor marries his boyish heroine Ione—who disappoints him extremely—and brings Nydia to Olmütz to have her sight cured. The latter experiment proves successful; the beautiful slave girl recovers the use of her eyes, and goes back to Pompeii happily with Glaucus, whereupon Roderich discovers that he loves her and will never be happy with his wife Ione, who worries him to death. Here the dream ceases. Ludmilla comes to waken her cousin, and he sees, as he believes, his beloved Nydia before him. The lovers fall into each other's arms, and the curtain soon descends finally. The music is pleasing, if not very original, and it suits the book admirably. Fräulein Mia Werber in the rôles of Ludmilla and Nydia looked charming, and sang and acted most delightfully. This clever actress was the star, and all the rest of the cast paled before her brilliancy.

A THREE-ACT satirical farce, by MM. Stark and Richard Wilde, entitled *Liebshandel*, was produced with much success at the Elysium Theatre, Stettin, last week. A Berlin theatre manager—who was present at the première—was so struck with the piece that he has obtained it for production at his own theatre. It is only taking time by the forelock to give a slight sketch of the plot. A wealthy American lady, who dabbles in speculation, is the chief figure. Wherever she sees a chance of adding to her "pile" she cannot resist it, no matter to what extent she may be compelled to go. So that when a clever engineer with a wonderful patent in automobiles turns up and falls in love with her she gives him her hand in exchange. The fair speculator fully intends the union to be one of those fleeting matrimonial affairs indigenous to her country. When she has the valuable patent in her possession she means to get a separation. But she has reckoned without her heart, and how she gradually abandons her avaricious plans and obeys love's dictates is very brightly told. The end is a satisfactory one, and the audience testified to its full appreciation of the farce, whose plot is certainly better than the inane things frequently set before us.

THE Royal Opera gave a well-attended performance of *Carmen* on Monday last with an interesting "guest" in the title-rôle. Frau Von Scheele, from Bremen, sang, so to say, on approval—a frequent occurrence at our Opera House, and one seldom crowned with success, unless private influence is brought to bear. Frau Von Scheele has a beautiful voice, but, although she acts pleasingly enough, her conception of this particular rôle was not sufficiently dramatic. What she may achieve in other parts we may yet be able to give an opinion upon. There is always plenty of room for a new artist of talent in our Royal Opera company—which is, I am happy to say, being gradually weeded out—and Frau Von Scheele would most likely be a desirable acquisition. A word of praise must be accorded to Herr Philipp for his good rendering of the part of Don José, and to the orchestra and chorus under Kapellmeister Von Strauss's conductorship.

THE summer opera season at the Schiller Theatre, under the management of Herr Morwitz, commenced on Sunday evening with the ever popular *Troubadour*. As has become an annual custom, Herr Boetel is engaged for the rôles of Manrico and the Postillion (in *The Postillion of Lonjumeau*) and he made his usual hit. The popular tenor, nevertheless, is not quite the attraction that he once was. Time is telling upon his beautiful voice, which has never enjoyed the advantage of much culture or care. Herr Boetel has always depended upon the effect of his marvellous high notes, and has utterly neglected "schooling." He sang a good many passages on Sunday quite out of tune, and his famous C was forced and no longer pleasant to hear. The part of Azucena was admirably rendered by Fräulein Scheresche wsky, and the same may be said of Fräulein Koenig's Leonore. The remaining rôles were hardly up to average, and the orchestra and chorus might have been considerably better.

A NEW volks-play was produced at the Belle Alliance Theatre—the season at present of the Tegernsee company — on Saturday. It is the work of Herr Richard Manz, and entitled *Der Kleine Cürassier*. The piece is wildly funny, in the style of a burlesque. The main idea is that an artist, Franzl by name, has told his parents at home he is married and father of a son. Franzl—who is living a Bohemian life and enjoying himself very thoroughly in the metropolis—has thus been frequently the recipient of timely little cheques from his parents in the country. When, therefore, the good people announce their intention by a wire of paying Franzl an immediate visit, that gentleman is in de-pair. His friends assist him to wife and son for a short period, and the masquerading creates the most absurd situations. The piece was capitally acted, and met with a cordial reception.

DEATH has been busy among our artistes lately. An actress whose place it will be hard to fill—Frau Von Poellnitz, of the Deutsches Theatre—died on Friday last. Frau Von Poellnitz had an interesting career. She was an officer's daughter, and in her youth lady-in-waiting to the Empress Augusta. She then turned her attention to grand opera, studied in Paris under Viardot-Garcia, and made her début at the Royal Opera here as Iphigenia. Later on Frau Von Poellnitz entered the Deutsches Theatre company, where she filled one of the foremost places up to the time of her fatal illness. Perhaps her most masterly rôle was Frau Wolffen, in Hauptmann's *Biberpelz*. Frau Von Poellnitz—who was suffering from cancer—played for the last time the middle of March, in Heyerman's *Ora et Labora*, after which she never left her bed. It is a matter of surprise to everyone that she was well on in the sixties—so powerful, even robust, was her acting to the last.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.
(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore; Acting-Manager, Mr H. O. Cavanah.—The exciting drama, *Freedom*, is presented this week by the Arthurian company of players. The part of Slingsby is played by Mr A. Wheatman with characteristic American vigour, while Mr Percy Bell provides a lot of amusement as the phlegmatic Dutchman, Jacob Blompet. The ladies appear to much advantage, particularly Miss Sidney Crowe as Constance Loring, Miss Maude Tremayne as Suleima, Miss Josephine Rae as Lady Betty Piper, Miss Beatrice Goodchild as Amaranthe, and Miss Kitty Ross as Alfa. Mr Herbert Skardon as Captain Gascoigne and Mr W. Edwyn Holloway as Mohammed Aref Bey also contribute in a considerable measure to the success of the production. The piece is preceded by a farce, *A Kiss in the Dark*, the parts in which are cleverly played by Mr Thomas Sidney, Mr Riddell Robinson, Miss Beatrice Goodchild, Miss Beatrice Holmes, and Miss Kitty Ross.

ACCRINGTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Barnes.—*The Rogue's Daughter* is here under the direction of Mr A. Hall Menzies. Mr R. Ferris very capably portrays Colonel Foster; Mr Wilfred Blair is successful as Frank Tyler; Mr Frank Fenn adequately represents Sir George Maynard; Mr Harry H. Reynold portrays Isaac Isaacs in a humorous style; Mr A. Hall Menzies is amusing as "Ercules;" Miss Marie Menzies as Letty Grey is artistic and natural; Miss Madge Devereux plays with invariable consistency the part of Lady Maynard; and Miss Mona Hall gives a neat interpretation of Priscilla Jenkins.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr George E. Williams.—After many years' absence *A Royal Divorce* (Mr W. W. Kelly's company) is again delighting the audience here. Mr George W. Cockburn and Miss Agnes Imlay are successful as Napoleon and Josephine respectively. Miss Lilla Wilde gives a capital personation of Marie Louise, and a good portrayal of the light-hearted Stephanie is contributed by Miss Beatrice Webb. The acting of Mr W. Dexter (Talleyrand) and Mr Frank Stone (Marquis De Beaumont) is commendable, and the efforts of Messrs Walter T. Clifford (General Augereau) and James Willoughby are praiseworthy. Mr Alfred Wellesley as the drunken inn-keeper is amusing, and others in the heavy cast in smaller parts add their share to the success, Misses Christine Middleton, Vera Hollis, and Doris FitzGerald being not the least noticeable. The play is excellently staged.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Fairbairn.—The musical comedy *Jack's Sweetheart* is here this week. The company is fully equal to the demands made upon it. There is plenty of comic song and chorus, and some expert dancing by a clever quartet of lady dancers. Prominent performers are Messrs C. W. Parke, Fred Laceby, Fletcher Sansome, Will Percy, Jack Binns, Misses Gladys Silvester, Muriel Alleyne, Augusta Rocheforte, and Marion Walker. The fun-makers are chiefly Mr Will Percy as a comic policeman, Mr Fred Laceby as a dude, and Miss Marion Walker as a slavey.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmott.—The programme for the week is of exceptional merit. The leading stars are the Savonas, the musical marvels. One of their most admired performances is the overture to the opera *William Tell*. The Storm scene is produced with really weird and wonderful effects. The other artistes who appear are Newcombe and Sullivan, refined character comedians and expert dancers; King Leo, the amusing ventriloquial entertainer; Miss Minnie Palmerston, a charming comedienne; the Rush worths, in their illustrated ballads; Senorita Eloina, the queen of the air, a revolving wheel of handsome humanity; Miss Florence Platt, descriptive vocalist; and the Six Cycling Elliotts, male and female riders. The Hippo. Bioscope is also an attraction.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. C. Mitchell.—*The Mockery of Marriage* occupies the boards here this week. Mr Arthur Winpenny is a sufficiently villainous Sir Montague Jephson; Jack Stanley is well embodied by Mr Harry Stebbing; Toby Wright (Mr Will Skelton) and Mary Ann (Mrs Halling) supply the fun, which is heartily enjoyed; Miss Florence Zillwood is prominent as Alva Kenyon. The Four Aces, specially engaged, also assist.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr George Stone.—Mr Morton Powell's company, in *Bigamy*, is here. Miss Grace Lester plays the scheming Diane De Courcelle with dramatic ability, Miss Elsie Capel is a winning Sylvia Dresden, and Miss Constance Medwyn is very good as Lilian Lambkiss. The Sir Charles Dresden of Mr Colin Hazelwood is a dignified embodiment, and the twin brothers, Lionel and Edgar Craven, are excellently presented by Messrs Chas. Melrose and E. S. Earle respectively. Much vigorous humour is contributed by Mr J. Paulton-Walters as Rufus Cherrybull, Mr Francis Searle as Polyphemus Voltaire, and Mr Will Percival as Sir Anthony Grapes.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr Tom Whiting.—Harry Lauder, who tops the bill here this week, is a most popular turn. The Three Ferganas are astonishing with their head-balancing feats. Toile-D'Araignee, the human spider, gives a wonderful performance on the swinging ladder. Chummie La Mara is quite a favourite. Florence Schuberth sings very sweetly. Walter Blake has a lot of original patter, and his acrobatic dancing is very good, and Will Sergeant, in his scena, *A Little Bit Knocked About*, is very well received.

BATH.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—Mr Frank Macnaghten's open-air vaudeville entertainment continues to attract large attendances, particularly in the evenings, when the Bath Military Band perform. The artistes this week include Mr Harry Lawton, the popular humourist, whose sketches are admirably conceived and cleverly rendered. Mr Herbert M'Robie possesses a basso-profundo voice that he displays to advantage in well-chosen ballads. Mr Harry May Hemsley returns to give his lifelike mimicry of children with his usual success. Mr Charles Coverdale, comedian, remains from last week, his quaint songs and ready gag greatly amusing his hearers.

BLYTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr George E. Good.—Mr John H. Morton's company is paying a successful return visit with *The Rajah of Ranjanpore*. The place of honour must be given to Madame Constance Bellamy, who as Primrose Stubbs wins warm applause. As Ernest Travers Mr W. H. Montgomery displays ability of a high order.

BOLTON.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Kenyon.—Messrs Fred Darcy and Fred J. Little's company, including Miss Nellie Moore, Mr Billy Harman, Miss Bertha St. Ruth, Messrs Bass and Guinness, and Mr Fred J. Little, is this week appearing in the musical comedy, *On the Stroke of Twelve*.

BELFAST.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr John S. Walker.—The leading position here is occupied by Mr Fred Ginnett's *Rejected Remounts*, a funny equestrian sketch. Another strong attraction is provided by the King's Musketeers in their celebrated entertainment. Kingsley submits a clever hand-bell performance; Miss Alma Curzon delights all with her capital songs; the Rozells appear to advantage in their comedy bar act; the ventriloquial entertainment submitted by Graham possesses many features of a decidedly interesting nature; and Linton is a marvellous tight-rope artist; Mr Alf Levarni's wire act is undoubtedly smart, and also appearing are Frank Hartley, boy juggler; and Fred Grimshaw, a juvenile character vocalist.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brook.—Mr Tom Hearn, described as "the laziest juggler on earth," heads the bill, and meets with a fine reception. The Scottish Meisters, the Highland comedy quartet, appear in their exceedingly meritorious performance. Miss Maud Mortimer makes a hit with her latest successes. Mr Fred Zola is an amusing eccentric comedian, and the New Macs repeat last week's success with their original songs and patter and smart dancing. Miss Jessie Burnett delights all with her clever songs and dances, and also appearing are Mr Dan Thomas, a funny character comedian, and the Dorrells, duettists and dancers.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—The chief attraction this week is provided by Mr Harry Tate's No. 1 company in their celebrated sketch *Motoring*, which is certainly most amusing, and has been received with enthusiasm. Mr W. J. Churchill (Uncle Willie) makes a big hit with his funnily rendered songs and original and witty patter, the audience being kept in shrieks of merriment. The juggling feats by Coma are certainly amazing in their dexterity; Harrigan and Holt are exceedingly droll comedians; and the new pictures exhibited by Welsker Brothers' Bioscope form quite a feature of the bill. The Three Condos, foot equilibrists, have been well received, and others on the programme comprise Mr Charles Rose, clog dancer; the Three Donals, athletes on the silver chains; and Zimsi Stewart, a good local comedian.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Mr Fred J. Kirke's company commenced a week's engagement on Monday, opening with the musical comedy *Our Sailor Lad*. Miss Louie Fontaine gives an acceptable rendering of Nell Lindsey; Mr Walter Laugford exhibits great versatility in the rôle of Detective Serchley; and Jack Maitland is well impersonated by Mr Fred Kirke. Mr Stanley Bedwell is well placed as William Fenton. During the week *In Old Madrid* has also been produced.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—An excellent and comprehensive company includes the Zanettos, Japanese jugglers, who execute some effective feats; M. Paul Courteney and his company in a capital sketch; the Four Olympians, dancers and vocalists; Harry Ray and Lillie Calden, comedy artistes; Prince Benton, an expert ventriloquist; Miss Sheila Deans, comedienne; Miss Janet Reynolds, a really talented balladist; Miss Alma Grey, comedienne; and Merton and Rydon, duettists and dancers. Mr Ernest Denney is musical director.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry Johnston.—*East Lynne* has been played here by Mr Henry Dundas and his company. Mr Dundas fills the part of Archibald Carlyle ably, and Miss Lilian Dundas is very affecting as Lady Isabel. Mr Percy Rhodes as Capt. Levison provokes the "gods" to anger by his clever acting, and Messrs F. Eaglesfield, G. H. Harker, H. J. Barrett, Sidney Young, C. F. Jameson, and the Misses Rose Helene, Marion Ryder, Esther Carthew, and Ethel L. Caryllon act admirably.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Lester Collingwood.—*The Hero of the Flag* is here. Miss Lizzie Hall as Mabel Forrester is spirited, womanly and tender. Mr Sydney Spenser, who is responsible for the whole of the production, gives a vivid delineation of the character of Paul Mansfield, and Mr G. F. Royal as the "cat's-paw" is successful. Mr Alfred Goddard makes a typical captain of "the King's navee," Mr Arthur Elwyn shines as Jack Lawrence; and Mr Johnny M'Elroy as Truckle and Miss Ida Ernest as Jenny are humorous. Miss Maude Yorke as Ruth acts with taste and ability.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr A. Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—*East Lynne* is being done here also. Mr Matt Wilkinson and his stock company are engaged in the version represented, and Mrs Matt Wilkinson plays as Lady Isabel with success. Mr Oswald Lingard ably realises the outraged husband; Mr M. Morley Carroll depicts the villainies of Captain Levison in an able and bold manner. Miss Beatrice Wilkinson and Mr Matt Wilkinson supply comic relief as Joyce and P. C. Tripp; and Messrs Watson Wright, H. Macdonald, W. Gardner, Tom Dowling, and the Misses Madge Blundell and May Healey support in creditable style.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard.—*The Maid of the Alps*, with Mr G. M. Marriott in his old part of the hag Mother Potard, has been in high favour here. Miss Edith Finley's performance of the titular part has the same charm that has always distinguished it, and Mr H. Gilbey as Lucas plays well. Mr Otto Minster as the young Englishman acts in a manly way that wins admiration, and Mr Walter Rousby and Miss Nelly May shine in the comic rôles. *London After Dark* also furnishes opportunities for Miss Finlay as the heroine and Mr Marriott as the villain, and Miss Finlay sings with success and charm a new song-scena entitled "The Goldsmith's Wife," an incident in the life of Jane Shore.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr A. W. Matcham.—The main feature of the programme here is a juvenile spectacle entitled *The Gordons at Dargai*, which is represented by 100 local children, under the direction of Miss W. Selkirk. The M'Naughtons receive quite an ovation for their amusing patter; the Wille Brothers are expert head and hand-balancers; some excellent singing and dancing are provided by the Wilhelmina Quartet; Alice Lloyd is a dainty comedienne; Edith Courtney has a fine voice; and Hill and Whittaker, banjoists; Chas. Mildare, whistling comedian; Franco Piper, banjoist; and George Barron, comedian, are also in the bill.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Albert Bushell.—We have an unusual array of talent which draws immense audiences twice nightly. The Royal Tokio Troupe of Japanese acrobats are about the best we have seen, the rope-walking act being most daring. The popular Harriett Vernon stays on another week; Henry Cazman is a versatile impersonator of musicians; Rose Tilley is loudly applauded for her songs; as also are G. W. Foster and T. C. Callagan, comedians. Other good turns are the Five Bogannys, comedy Risleyists; Collins and Rice; Mdlle. Flossie, dancer; and Driscoll and Beattie's company in *Two Old Rogues*.

HIPPODROME.—Managing Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford.—A lengthy and varied programme here this week is headed by the Manello Marnitz Troupe of equilibrists in a unique acrobatic display. Prevost and Prevost in their acrobatic sketch, *Fun in a Turkish Bath*, are entertaining; another good sketch is *The Quiet Burglars*, enacted by Conn and Conrad, expert trapezists. Celina Bobe is to be commended for her musical abilities; Miss Fredrica's cake-walk pony and performing dogs show high training; and Jack Pleasants is a comedian of rare ability. The Violas, the White Mahatmas, the Passmore Brothers, comedians, and the Max Trevally-Harley Troupe of trampolin acrobats are excellent turns.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Acting-Manager, Mr Geo. Foster.—Mr Philip Sefton and company, in the late Charles Godfrey's scena, *On Guard*, is the principal item, in which Tom Danby, Victor Wilde, and Miss Isabel Compton are in the cast. Harry Phydora is encored for his songs; Vera Patey sings a laughing song in a charming manner; and Mason and Keller have an amusing sketch, *Hooked by Crook*. Leo Tell, mimic; Nora Ray, vocalist; the Trentanovi Sisters, gymnasts; Radford and Valentine, comedy jugglers; Burley and Burley, comedy acrobats; and Davis and Davis, vocal comedians, all win well-deserved applause.

BLACKPOOL.

HIS MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr G. E. V. Russell's company is here this week with *The Girl from Corsica*. The brunt of the work falls on the shoulders of Mr Victor Stevens, who as Sam Spindle provides no end of fun, and fully merits the warm reception which is nightly accorded to him. Mr Cyril Harcourt very ably portrays Percy Wilmot, and Mr Archie Selwyn gives evident satisfaction by his impersonation of Lord Gilbert Poole, whilst the Honourable Augustus finds a fitting exponent in Mr Arthur Linton. Mr Leicester Tunks (Maimoun) and Mr Louis Stanislaus (Marchand Bombatier) also play well. A charming Lily White is found in Miss Connie Leon; Miss Beatrice Poole fills the rôle of Muriel admirably; Lady Deborah Pool is represented with excellent effect by Miss Maude Gwynne; and Miss Nellie Grant displays power and skill as Lusania, the brigand maiden. The singing and dancing of the whole company are highly satisfactory.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr T. Sergenson.—Miss Grace Warner's company are here with *The New Commander*. Miss Warner, who appears as Violet Flintheart, is a clever actress. Miss Polly Prim works hard as Vivette, and Mr Geo. Gordon effects several disguises.

WINTER GARDENS PAVILION.—General Manager, Mr J. R. Huddlestone.—The new turn in the programme this week is the Leleslyn Quartet, who contribute a number of glees with taste and judgment. Horace Goldin, illusionist, is still retained, and continues to arouse the greatest enthusiasm, whilst the several other artists also continue to give satisfaction.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Signor Pepi and Co.; Manager, Mr T. P. Duignan.—Peggy Pryde tops the bill here this week. Milner Verren is a good tenor vocalist, and is also well received. Prince Ishmael is aptly described as a man of mystery, and Florence Hill is a clever burlesque actress. Sibil and Bibli, Childie Stuart, George Antill, and the Vandyke Troupe of pantomimists also appear.

NORTH PROMENADE RECREATION GROUNDS.—Messrs Pepper and Shield's White Coons are proving very popular here. Their entertainment is both clever and refined.

BOOTLE.

ROYAL MUNCASTER THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Pennington; Manager, Mr H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert E. Wilson.—Mr T. R. Nugent's company is here with *The Web of Fate*. Mr R. Payne gives a strong portrayal of Vincent Heath, and Mr B. Bethven is very good as Frank Damer. Mr T. R. Nugent plays with force as Clement Burnie. The heroine, Winifred Heath, is played with much distinction by Miss Alvina Mining, and Miss P. Watson as Mary Poppin is very successful. Mr Dan Mining is amusing as Richard Richards, and sings with success. The remaining parts are in capable hands.

BOSCOMBE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr F. Moulliot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Considerable interest was aroused by the flying visit paid by Mr F. R. Benson and his company here last Saturday in the Orestean Trilogy of Æschylus. The performance of this ancient example of the playwright's art would command attention under any circumstances, but, invested with the artistic skill which is apparent in Mr Benson's production, it merits admiration quite apart from its historic interest. Mr Benson presented a vivid picture of the unhappy Orestes, compelled by Apollo's decree to slay his mother and then flying, terror-stricken, before the avenging Furies, while Mrs Benson's impersonation of Clytemnestra was no less dramatic and successful. Mr Walter Hampden was successful as Agamemnon, and the same may be said of Mr B. A. Pittar as Ægisthus, while Mr Cyril Keightley was admirably suited as Apollo. Miss Gertrude Scott showed considerable talent in her representation of Cassandra, and Miss Mabel Moore invested the part of Electra with a quiet sincerity which made an excellent impression. Miss Dorothy Green was a pleasing Athena. The remaining parts were all in good hands, and the production as a whole is an artistic success of a high order of merit.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee, Mr Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Mr Leslie Norman's company is here this week in *A Trip to Chinatown*. The comedy abounds in amusing situations, and laughter reigns throughout. Mr Charles Seguin is immensely amusing as Welland Strong; Miss Harriet Fawn sustains with spirit and animation the part of Mrs Guyer; Mr Jerrold Manville creates hearty laughter by his clever comedy acting as Ben Gay; Mr Will Smith loses no opportunity of extracting fun from the character of Noah Heap; Mr Frederick Bousfield retains his original part of Slavin Payne with vigour and freshness; Rashleigh Gay and Norman Blood are Norman Blood are respectively well represented by Mr Leslie Austin and Mr Oswald Gray; Miss Dorothy Vicott is animated and sprightly as Flirt; and Miss Florrie Macinnes as Tiny Gay, Miss Winifred Davies as Isabel Dame, and Miss Beatrice Erle as Willie Grow contribute to the general success. The Three Canadian Belles score by their clever dancing.

BRADFORD.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Francis Laidler.—Mr Lingford Carson's play, *The Heart of a Hero*, is the present attraction here. Messrs Carson and Granville's company is a capable one. Jem Resdale is in the capable hands of Mr F. W. Goddard; as Nell Resdale Miss Cissy St. Elmo achieves distinct success; Mr A. B. Mackay plays well as Mark Marl; and Mr C. E. Johnson's Wilfred Marl is a good performance. May Rider is a creditable effort on the part of Miss Laurie Pardy, and the other members of the company who acquit themselves with credit are Miss Beatrice Hudson, Mr A. Carruthers, and Miss Ida Mackay.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr P. A. Lennon.—Anything funnier or smarter than the performance which the American comedy juggler, W. C. Fields, is giving here this week it would be hard to imagine. A bright comedy turn is given by Howard and St. Clair, excellent dancing and high kicking by Vi Holmes commands applause, and a very clever acrobatic performance by the smart Barowsky Trio is greatly appreciated. Grace and muscle are features of a fine gymnastic performance by the charming Devona Sisters. Faultlessly attired and in a most convincing style May Lilian Levey depicts the ideal English swell; Bert Brantford in quaint style gives a good comic song; Hamilton Hill's baritone songs are vigorously rendered; the Oswald Sisters dance gracefully; and Little Fred provides a diverting entertainment with his cleverly trained troupe of acrobatic dogs.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr F. Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr E. Harrison.—The versatility displayed by the charmingly dressed and bright comedienne, Daisy James, commands unstinted plaudits here this week, and Roze and Calvert's unique comedy turn is proving delightfully entertaining. Martino, the contortionist, provides a striking turn with his "Nest of Vipers." The Sisters Cora, duettists, submit a smart turn; and there is much humour and some rousing vocalism in the entertainment provided by Hicks's Clerks. Edna Cragge, comedienne, is heard to advantage in a "Hiawatha" parody, and the Two Weirs go daintily through a sketch, *The Bootblack and the Flower Girl*. There is some excellent vocalism on the part of Emlyn Jones, the tenor and his Emerald Ladies' Quartet, which commands applause, and Pallister's Bioscope shows some capital and up-to-date animated pictures.

BRIDLINGTON.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr Chas. Palmer.—The crowded audiences nightly at the promenade concerts testify to the popularity of Herr Winternitz's Royal Viennese Orchestra. The vocalists this week are Miss Eleanor Rawlings, a young soprano who possesses a very pleasing voice, and Mr William Riley, a gentleman with a nice light baritone voice.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr Henry Hague.—The leading features at the concerts given by the company's English orchestra, under the able direction of Dr. Churchill Sibley, are the solos by Mr Abbott, the violinist, who plays with great taste, and the beautifully executed harp solos of Mr Frederic Hall. The vocalist this week is Madame Minnie Shatel, whose contralto songs are heard to great advantage in the large pavilion of this fashionable resort.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs Beanland, Bath, and Danton.—The popular Waterloo Pierrots give three entertainments daily in this large summer structure, and the various performers meet with well-deserved applause. The comic songs of J. Batt and Syd Hynd always go well, and the farces are very amusing. The managers are this week running a baby show as an extra attraction to the holiday makers.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Macready Chute.—There was a large attendance here on Monday evening to see *A Royal Divorce*. The play was well staged, and, though well known to Bristol playgoers, it was followed with marked attention. Mr W. W. Kelly's company is a good one, the smaller parts being all most carefully played, and the tableaux the Battle and the Conqueror Overthrown at the close of the fourth act are produced artistically. Miss Edith Cole presents a fine and convincing exposition of Josephine; Mr Fredk. Victor is successful as Napoleon; Miss Ethyle Murray is stately as Marie Louise; and Miss Helen Richmond is a vivacious Stephanie. Talleyrand, De Beaumont, Augereau, and Murat are well played by Messrs Claude Agnew, Trevor Lowe, Alfred Grenville, and Ernest G. Batley. On Tuesday afternoon a special treat was provided by Mr Chute, this being a visit by Mr F. R. Benson and his company in the Orestean Trilogy of Æschylus, the translation being by Mr E. D. A. Morshead, and it exhibits in three consecutive tragedies the murder of Agamemnon and its moral sequences, the music being specially composed by Mr Christopher Wilson. The tenor and baritone solos were taken in excellent style by Mr G. Hayes and Mr G. Buchanan, and Miss Cissie Saumarez was a very able leader of the chorus, her fine voice being heard to much advantage. The staging and costumes were adequately effective. In *Agamemnon* Mrs Benson ably portrayed the varying moods of Clytemnestra, her graceful style suiting the part well. Mr Walter Hampden was dignified and impressive as Agamemnon; and Miss Gertrude was pleasingly sympathetic as Cassandra. In *The Libation Bearers* Mr Benson presented a fine exposition of Orestes, his artistic and elocutionary abilities standing him in good stead; Mrs Benson further distinguished herself as Clytemnestra; Miss Mabel Moore was highly effective as Electra; and Mr B. A. Pittar was successful as Ægisthus. In *The Furies* Mr Benson won golden opinions for his fine rendering of the appeal to Apollo. The performance went with exceptional smoothness throughout, Mr Wilson's quaint and difficult music being well rendered both by the augmented orchestra and the highly competent chorus; and at the fall of the curtain Mr Benson had quite an ovation. There was a large attendance in all parts of the house, the audience naturally including the young people of both sexes attending the various better class educational establishments in Bristol and Clifton.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Ernest Carpenter.—The interesting drama of frontier life, *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*, is well staged here, and capitally played by Miss Go-Won-Go-Mohawk and her company. There was a large attendance on Monday evening, and the play was followed with interest, the realistic knife fight obtaining much applause. Miss Go-Won-Go-Mohawk presents a fine convincing exposition of the title-rôle; Mr Charles A. Carlile is effective as Manuel Lopez, obtaining good support from Mr Theo Alker as Captain Franklin; Mr C. W. Charles plays well as Colonel Stockton; Mr Ulric Kenrade displays ability as Ga-Ne-Gua; and Miss Minnie Goepel is pleasing as Nellie Stockton. Other parts of lesser importance are carefully taken by members of the company, and good variety turns of song and dance are given by Miss Goepel, Miss Dorothy Neville, Mr G. D. Rackney, and Mr Dan Ryan. The two Indian ponies, trained by Miss Go-Won-Go Mohawk, add considerable attraction to the production.

PALACE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Brothers; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr Welchman.—Dr. Bodie is packing the Palace for a second week. Old patients are introduced to testify to the lasting effect of his treatment. New patients are successfully operated upon on the stage, and a good variety entertainment is provided, the Doctor himself giving a clever ventriloquial exposition. Little Dolly Robson sings remarkably well; La Petite Bella is a smart and attractive burlesque actress; Miss Helen Henri is a pleasing ballad vocalist; Hyam Long is successful as an entertainer; the Two Whites are smart speciality artistes; Norman Mills, actor-vocalist, obtains applause; Zrenyi is an expert hand acrobat; and Inthy does a clever act on the wire.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr Thomas Barrasford, jun.—Jacques Inaudi, lightning calculator and arithmetician, heads the programme here, the accuracy and quickness with which he calculates various difficult sums eliciting sustained applause. Sam Mayo, comedian, is successful in pleasing; the Dunedin troupe present an expert exposition of trick and fancy cycling; Downs and Langford are amusing comedians and smart dancers; Harry Taft is decidedly good as a whistling comedian; Corty Brothers provide a smart acrobatic and horizontal bar turn; Rex Fox is exceptionally expert as a wire performer; Queen and Le Brun are entertaining comedians; J. A. Cassels, Scotch comedian, has some popular songs; and Tom E. Finglas is successful with Negro songs. The entertainment concludes with animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr James M. Hardie; Manager and Secretary, Mr James M. Hardie, jun.—*From Scotland Yard*, by John Douglas and Frank Bateman, commenced a week's run here on Monday. Mr C. Finch-Hatton as Jack Dare, with his many disguises, works very hard and successfully. Weary Maraden and Joe Staggers, in the hands of Mr Dan Agar and Mr Basil Mitchell, are also very comical. Mr Paul Lovett as Dean Fordyce, Mr James Turner as Jim Mullins, Mr R. Finch-Hatton as Richard Drake, Mr V. G. Vane as Hawkins, with Miss Renee Glendower as Mad Maria, Miss Alwynne Ermon as Mabel, Miss Marion Forrester as Sybil, Miss Maudie Grayson as Dolly Beetles, and Miss V. Gould-Bourne as Mrs Ruggles give good support.

BRIGHTON.

AQUARIUM.—Manager, Mr W. J. Hardy; Secretary, Mr S. H. Andrews.—Under the direction of Mr H. G. Pellisier the "Ragamuffins" are submitting pleasing entertainments here this week, the party comprising Miss Muriel George, soprano; Miss Gladys Ward, contralto; Mr Arthur Davenport, comedian; Mr Bert Ansell, 'cellist and vocalist; and Mr Reginald Mountfield, musical sketches. Others attractions are presented by the Bioscope and the Aquarium orchestra, under the direction of Mr F. W. Slatter.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General Manager, Mr Ernest Lepard.—The following are here this week:—Fred Karno's company of speechless comedians, in *Hilarity* and *Jail Birds;* Ray Hartley, speciality dancer; Mons. Celest, gymnast and wire walker; the Sisters Caselli, duettists and high kickers; Mdlle. Dagmar, queen of the horizontal bar and gymnastic ropes, with her clown; Harry Sheldon, vocal comedian; Austin and Cowan, Australian vocalists; Beattie Bloom, serio; Wisper, comedy juggler; Alexandre and Hughes, musical comedians; and the Alhambra pictures.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The following are here this week:—Alethea, graceful gymnast; the Brothers Harrison, comedians, patterers, and expert dancers; Bertha Winder, clog and big-boot dancer; Massias O'Connor, billiard-ball manipulator and conjuror; Geo. Fuller Golden, comedian; John L. Shine, in the monologue, *A Letter from England;* Laurie Pringle, baritone vocalist; the Penstones, prestidigitateurs; John Green Marx, the modern Hercules; and animated pictures.

NEW PALACE PIER.—General Manager, Mr C. Thompson Ford; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—Mr Charles Otley's company opened here on Monday with *Caste.* Mr. Charles Otley achieved great success as Eccles; Mr George C. Doughty gave an excellent portrayal of the Hon. George D'Alroy; Mr Arthur Rodney was very effective as Captain Hawtree; Mr W. Besley Beltran made an entertaining Sam Gerridge; Miss Phyllis Atherleigh acted with distinct charm as Esther; Miss Mary Jonquil was an amusing Polly; and Miss Keith Lytton was well suited as the dignified Marquise De St. Maur. The programme for the week also included *Our Boys.*

WEST PIER PAVILION.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr A. D. Norman.—Mr Harold V. Neilson and company opened here on Monday with *The Tyranny of Tears.* Mr Harold V. Neilson gave an artistic impersonation of Clement Paibury; Miss Amy Sangster presented an excellent character study as Mrs Parbury; Miss May Saker made a charming Hyacinth Woodward; and Mr W. Lemmon Warde's George Gunning and Capt. Gerald Gambier's Col. Armitage were admirably played. The programme for the week also included *A Bunch of Violets.*

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Arthur Willoughby.—The attraction for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday this week was Messrs Windermere and Brooks' company in *The New Housemaid.* This merry farce evidently greatly pleased the audiences. Mr Somers Bellamy played the character of Peter Pinkerton with sound judgment, and Mr Reginald Maurice was thoroughly well suited to the part of Arthur. Mr Charles Windermere as the Hon. Bertie Rashleigh was an immediate success. Mr Charles Calvert played Mr Stephen Stingles in a diverting manner, and Mr Henry Chichester was well cast as Doom. Mr John H. Costello made a capital Rosebery, and Miss Ella Edgar was most vehement as the discharged housemaid. Miss Madge Haines made the cook a most aggressive personage, and Miss Nita Pelhim scored as the high-handed sister Caroline. Miss Clare Manifield played delightfully as Dulcie, and Miss Florence Lincoln was a most suitable Agnes.

CARDIFF.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robert Redford.—Mr John Tully's company with *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is here. Mr Kora Deanrajah, a capital Uncle Tom, claims sympathetic attention; the rôle of Phineas Fletcher, which is in the hands of Mr Cecil Pierpoint, has effective interpretation; Mr F. G. Kay is exceptionally good as Simon Legree; and Mr Edward Aldworth is entitled to praise for his acting as George Harris. Mr John Tully displays humour as Marks, and Mr Charles Colwyn submits a clever delineation of St. Clair. Miss Cissie Sephton must be complimented on her Eliza Harris; Miss Marie Lyndon is an admirable Aunt Ophelia; Miss Kitty Wood makes an amusing Topsy, and Little Marie as Eva shows unusual ability.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; General Manager, Mr Robert Sawin. *The Red Signal* has been played here this week with success by Mr Sydney Vereker's capital company. The well selected cast includes Mr Thorpe Tracey as Peter Sorrell, Mr Sydney Vereker as Sammy Gay, and Miss Ella Sennett as May Sorrell. Mr Bateman, the genial lessee, is making great improvements in the house, a new feature just added being a fine display of Bioscope pictures in the intervals.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea.—George Lashwood is the star here, and is drawing crowded houses. Another great attraction are the Andos, happy little Japs, who amaze the audience by their daring performance. Cruikshank, clown singer, is still amusing; Manning's entertainers provide an excellent sketch entitled *A Hotel Boots;* the Densmores, in a comical juggling pantomime, are successful; Mdlle. Yvette's miniature hippodrome is excellent; the Glenroy Troupe are clever characteristic dancers; and Chris Richards, eccentric comedian; the Sakers, society entertainers; and Billy Farrell add to the success of the entertainment.

CASTLEFORD.

EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. W. Moyes.—Herr Fritz, the clever illusionist, is causing much astonishment here with his horse and jockey illusions; Bob Hartley, comedian, is clever with good songs; Bandoni gives a good musical show; Alveno and Cleo are applauded for their smart work on the ladder; Sisters Knowles, duettists and dancers, are greatly admired; Knoto, contortionist, is very good; Annie Sheltz, comedienne, meets with approval; M'Lemo gives a clever perch act; and the programme concludes with a talking machine introduced by Mons. Romberg.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr George G. Ridley.—Mr Walter Melville's company is this week presenting his sensational play, entitled *A Girl's Cross Roads.*

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr L. B. Barnard.—Few coster comedians have such a following locally as Alec Hurley, who this week heads a well-varied company.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davies; Manager, Mr Frank J. Donne.—A long and strong company opened here on Monday. Little Dando is a popular comedian; Jessie Eplett goes well; the Gladenbecks are excellent in their line of business; George D'Albert proves a great favourite; Victor Travers is applauded for his legmania dance. The Sisters Warner are a lively pair of acrobatic dancers; *The Lady and the Parson* is admirably enacted by Mrs Richard Edgar and Mr Willis Searle; the Five Delevines get their usual cordial reception; and Miss Ethel Arden, George Abel, and company fairly bring down the house with their excellent interpretation of *Three of a Kind.*

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—*Dare-Devil Dorothy,* a dramatic musical comedy, by Wilfred Carr, is paying a visit to the above house this week, and is being presented by Henry Swinerd's No. 1 company. Captain George Fielding finds a capable representative in Mr W. Francis Green. Mr Henry C. Ward is a cunning Captain Dudley, alias George Fielding. Silas Crump is in the capable hands of Mr Arthur Verne, who shows great abilities as comedian, vocalist, and dancer. Miss Mildred Clay and Miss Marjorie Cecil are both charming as Ruth Montrose and Dorothy Montrose respectively. Miss Lillie Blake as Rosy Ann is a capital dancer. Miss Nellie Harcourt and Mr Arthur Verne introduce their cake-walk and ten local children with marked success. Miss Lillie Blake and Miss Mabel Blake also submit their mirror dance illusion.

CROYDON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr H. D. Lyle.—The boards here are occupied by Mr Frank Harding's company in *Home, Sweet Home.* Mr V. Sansbury puts in genuine work as Stephen Armitage; Mr Frank Lindo renders useful support as Daniel Armitage; Mr W. G. Blount makes the most of the Duke of Ancaster; and Mr Frank Harding deserves a good word for his rendering of Lucas Lyle. Miss Nannie Meade is well suited as Sybil Fay; Miss Annie Travers admirably plays Lady Summerton; Miss S. Besant's Dora is worthy of praise; Miss Louisa Peach is reliable as Joan; and the remaining rôles are truthfully enacted.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—The entertainment here is a good one. Lennie and Hast give a capital act entitled *A Christmas Dream;* a more than usually clever and amusing acrobatic turn is submitted by the Five Olracs, the Donnells are hard-working duettists and dancers, the Royal Welsh Singers receive quite an ovation, Pauline Zaro is a taking comedienne, Mueller and Coyne are novelty entertainers who are applauded, Florrie Beck, serio, has a pretty method; Foo-Choo creates amazement in his illusion, "The Haunted Canopy;" Katie Kemp is a charming burlesque actress and dancer; Charley Deane, comedian, has an excellent selection of songs; and Wright and Elton are an interesting pair.

DEAL.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—During the week Mr Sanderson Moffat and his company appeared with great success in *A Woman Adrift.* Miss Phyllis Hamilton in the title-rôle met with a great success. Mr Sanderson Moffat, who played the parts of Don Leo and Ferdinand, is very clever. Mr Chute Wilson gave a characteristic rendering of the part of Jibbs. Mr William Clayton was very good as Sir John Ingleby.

DERBY.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr T. Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr Charles Denley.—There is more melodrama here this week in the shape of *Man to Man,* played by Mr William Bourne's company. Miss Maude Buchanan appears with success as Ethel Maythorn, and Miss Clarrie Ash makes an admirable Lavinia Dove. George Gordon has a creditable exponent in Mr Guy Hastings. Mr Frank Liston as the parson is praiseworthy; Mr Arthur Rich is capital as Bill Burkley. Mr Will Clement as Samuel Plumtree is commendable, as also is Mr A. Moore as Matthew Ellerton. The part of Richard Ellerton is in the capable hands of Mr Ellis J. Preston.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Edwardes.—The principal attraction here this week is supplied by the Ashley Brothers in their sketch *Next, Please.* The absurdity, which is full of amusing incidents, causes much hearty laughter, and is accorded a good reception. The Sevilles, in a sketch, *Gems of Melody,* prove themselves accomplished musicians, and are well worthy of special mention. Alec Aubrey, a clever gymnast, is deserving of praise; Alba and Amba submit a clever and amusing juggling act; H. K. Bradshaw is a fine tenor, his singing meeting with general appreciation; Sadie Seymour, a pleasing vocal comedienne, soon finds favour with her audience; and Fred Walker as an eccentric comedian is a success. The Bioscope contributes some capital pictures to a good all round programme.

DEVONPORT.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owner, Mr A. Carlton; Manager, Mr Charles Townsend.—Mr Arthur Carlton's stock company is producing this week *The Harbour Lights,* and, being of a nautical nature, it specially appeals to the audience. Mr Samuel Livesey as Lieut. David Kingsley, R.N., and Miss Judith Kyrle as Dora Vane, his sweetheart, both act with sterling ability. Mr Leonard Wardale, Miss Daisy Norman, Mr Herbert Cecil, Mr Leon Ainscliffe, Mr H. Dobell Lyle, and Mr Tennaur do full justice to their parts, and words of the highest praise are due to Miss Irene Valerie for her faithful and consistent portrayal. All the minor parts receive careful attention, and the cutlass exercise by a large number of bluejackets from his Majesty's Royal Navy add considerably to the excellent scenic effect.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr J. Herbert Asquith.—Miss Winifred Maude's *Sins of a City* company is here this week. Mr J. W. Baxter's portrayal of the dual characters of Jasper and Joe Woodleigh and Miss Eva Reed's performance of Midge deserve special mention. Mr Edward Warden lends good support as the bad man, Ralph Blackwater, and Mr Victor Du Cane as Isaac Levi also renders able service. Miss Maude as Seaweed makes a charming heroine.

DONCASTER.

NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Councillor J. W. Chapman.—Variety entertainments continue to be given here each evening by a carefully selected number of artists. Harry Bent, impersonator, introduces popular topical songs; J. C. Heffron is a favourite eccentric comedian; Baby Lloyd is, by special desire, retained for the present week; much laughter is created by the Valmores, comedy artistes; Carlotta Lunn, with a pretty and cultured soprano voice, is a good turn; the Bowery Boys, patterers, are well received; Nellie Vann, comedienne and sand dancer, contributes towards the evening's entertainment; Carl Verdi, novelty instrumentalist, affords abundant proof of his capabilities; and Lynn, the singing newsboy, has been well received.

DOVER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—*It's Never Too Late to Mend,* presented for the first time here on Monday, met with a cordial reception. Mr Frederick Ross as Tom Robinson gives a brilliant and impressive exposition; George Fielding is played earnestly and with feeling by Mr Claud Aymond; the Rev. Francis Eden finds an admirable exponent in Mr Herbert Hollister; Mr Byron Douglas is unquestionably a success in the part of Peter Crawley; and the villainies of Mr Meadows are duly emphasised by Mr George R. Butt. Mr E. C. Edwards give a fine performance of Isaac Levi. Mr F. A. Hammond is convincingly brutal as Mr Hawes, and is considerably helped by the able assistance of Mr H. Lawson as Fry and Mr Edwin Davies as Evans. Mr R. C. Smith is decidedly good as Mr Merton. Comedy is introduced by the eccentricities of Mr Jack Mackenzie as Jacky. Miss Mildred Eversleigh portrays most sympathetically the difficult rôle of Josephs; Miss Jeannie Burgoyne's interpretation of Susan Merton could not be improved upon. The Military Amateurs, under the direction of Colonel Moore-Lane, gave on Tuesday and Wednesday two admirable performances of *His Excellency the Governor.*

DOUGLAS.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Alfred Hemming; Manager, Professor Wood; Business Manager, Mr T. R. Wood.—The Grand is to be occupied for a short season by Professor Wood's musical and pictorial entertainments. The first performance took place on Monday evening, and a well-pleased audience witnessed the show. The principal attraction which Professor Wood presents is his animated pictures. These are up-to-date and contain the latest war pictures and, what secures great attention, replicas of the Manx motor trials and a representation of the Island's Parliamentary function the Tynwald Procession, showing Hall Caine and other Manx notabilities. There is also a clever vaudeville interlude which is likely to be popular. Miss Agnes Harvey, a young vocalist with a well-cultivated voice, renders the usual ballad to the satisfaction of her hearers. Hanco, the handcuff king and jail breaker, gives his curious exhibition, and secures applause. Mr Norman Russell makes for success with his polyglot sketch *A Concert in a Nutshell.* The musical directress Miss Nita Smith does her work well. At the Grand Theatre there has been, and will be for this season, a nightly change of programme.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Limited; Manager, Mr Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Brittain.—The Herbert Ralland and Walter Sealby season grows ever in popularity with each new production by this clever and versatile combination. On Monday evening an entirely new bill was presented to a large and enthusiastic house—Theyre Smith's dainty comedietta *The Happy Pair* and Mr Fred Sidney's funny farce in three acts *The Brixton Burglary. The Happy Pair* was delightfully acted by Mr C. B. Vaughan as Ferdinand Honeyton and Miss Ada Marius as his love-sick wife. In *The Brixton Burglary* Miss Chrissie Ralland as Petunia Perkins played the character with artistic abandon, and, in one or two scenes, touched the high water mark of eccentric comedy. The Millicent Pontifex of Miss Ada Marius was another of this clever artist's character studies which are always interesting. The Alicia Green of Miss Julie St. George was amusing, and Miss Mabel Sealby as Jessie scored. Mr Frederick Fowler as Septimus Pontifex acted with unflagging vivacity. Mr Walter Sealby as James again made a real hit. Mr C. B. Vaughan made Inspector Sharples entertaining. Mr Langford Reid was well placed as Richard Diggle. Mr Bertie Ralland was excellent as K 100, and the Frazer Green of Mr George P. Ascott accomplished all the author could have anticipated.

NEW EMPIRE.—Lessees, Messrs Elderton and Smith; General Manager, Mr A. E. Smith.—The management, after a short season of pantomime, have reverted to the variety show, giving two performances nightly. The company, which has already appeared here this season, maintains a popularity achieved previously. The audiences have been numerically strong, and have demonstrated their approval in unmistakable terms. Mr Bob Padley, a clever comedian, has a portmanteau packed with novelties, and consequently his efforts never pall. Mr J. H. Maxwell also finds something new and amusing. The Toreros are graceful and daring trick cyclists, the Gladwells have a new turn which goes well; the Silverdale Trio of dancers give a popular phase of their art; Mdlles. Douglas, Elsa Douglas, Bettison, and White sing and dance with effect. A clever dramatic sketch *The Miser* is capably acted by the company; and Mr John Matthews provokes hearty laughter.

DERBY CASTLE, LIMITED.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr Alfred Kelly.—At all times does this popular place of amusement secure quite its fair share of public favour. It is admirably conducted, the ballroom in excellent condition, and the orchestra invites people to dance. The variety turns are also selected with discretion. This week the programme is a popular one. Messrs Mountford and Walsh are high-class speciality artists who secure applause because they present a new and original act. Little Barney, an eccentric comedian who can sing and patter, was also found most acceptable. The Palace Bio-motograph is also showing animated pictures of an up-to-date and varied character.

BUXTON'S VILLAGE AND PIERROTS attract large audiences, especially now that the sun condescends to shine. There are three performances daily. The company has been carefully selected. The programme presented is various—sentimental ballads, comic songs, sketches, and interludes. The entertainment is smart and up to date.

THE other pierrots who occupy the band stand morning and afternoon reflect great credit on the enterprise of the proprietor and manager, Mr George Burton. They have a numerous and appreciative clientèle.

CHARLES DARE'S MINSTRELS on the Head rank as one of the fixed attractions of Douglas. Their entertainment in fine weather draws enormous crowds, who leave thoroughly delighted with the pleasant fooling provided for them.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessees, Michael Gunn, Limited; General Manager, Mr Charles Hyland.—Mr Chas. R. Stone's company opened on Monday in the comedy, entitled *What Became of Mrs Rackett.* Mr Charles R. Stone gives a humorous impersonation of Obadiah Dawson, and Mr Jack Hames is successful as Mr Tolman. The rôle of Mrs Tolman is capitally played by Miss Emily Kelsey, and as Katy Miss Daisy Stone displays much ability. The part of Robert Rackett has a capable representative in Mr R. E. Rawlinson, and Miss Edith Madelle gives a clever portrayal of the rôle of Mrs Rackett. The remaining parts are creditably filled, and the dancing of the Misses Jenny Temple, Alice Temple, and Letitia Flopp is much appreciated.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitbread; General Manager, Mr Kennedy Miller.—The Elster-Grime company entered on its second week here on Monday, when Gounod's *Faust* was presented to a well-filled house. Mr Fred Hargrave in the title-rôle made a decided success, and Miss Faithe Labore was creditable as Marguerite. Mr Gilbert King ably sustained the part of Mephistopheles, and as Siebel Miss Therese Gilbert was all that could be desired. The minor parts were well played, and the choruses and orchestra most efficient. The following are billed for remainder of week:—*Lily of Killarney, Cavalleria Rusticana,* and *The Jolly Waterman, Bohemian Girl,* and *Satanella,* &c.

EMPIRE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. S. Figgis.—A capital company is appearing here this week headed by the Dinah Morris Troupe of Southern coons, whose smart performance is loudly applauded. Francis and Mellie are capital entertainers, and Rosie Lloyd is a vivacious comedienne. The wonderful and interesting entertainment as given by Lind meets with a cordial reception, and Ada Martini is an excellent vocalist and dancer. The other turns who remain from last week are the Leggetts, sketch artistes; Frank Sylvo, comedy juggler; Jessie Albini, comedienne; and Ray Wallace, mimic, who are all going strong in their respective turns, and the Empire pictures are up to date.

TIVOLI.—General Manager, Mr Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr H. A. Murphy.—At this popular establishment the principal turn is Charlene and Charlene, who meet with success in their refined drawing-room entertainment. The Five Bon-Bons are highly amusing in the pantomime trap scene, "A Hot Time of It," and the ventriloquism of Professor Hulbert merits applause. The Four Trees are excellent comediennes and dancers, and Bert Woodward, cycling coon, is very good, as is also Arthur Beecham, comedian. Eller and Rose, vocalists and dancers, are a smart pair, and Gracie Lawn sings and dances well. The Two Wills, comedy acrobats, are acceptable, and Mons. Delil is a clever illusionist.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr C. A. James.—The following artistes are appearing here:—The Wrights, speciality artistes; Maud Dyer, comedienne; Harry Falka, comedian; Alice Townend, ballad vocalist; and George Nixon, comedian and dancer.

DUDLEY.

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Prichard.—There is an attractive programme at this popular place of amusement this week. Raymond's Vivagraph shows this year's Derby and also many scenes in connection with the great race. Forrest and King's eccentric acrobatic act is very clever; Corani, ventriloquist, gives a novel and "taking" turn; Miss Lily Marney, character artist, sings good songs in a droll style; and Lily Currie is a capital dancer and singer. George Bernard, descriptive vocalist, is very good. Other good turns are given by Babs Harris and Eric Graham.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore.—This week the Drury-lane drama, entitled *Youth,* is the attraction. Miss Cecil Cromwell gives a clever piece of acting in the character of Mrs Walsingham; Miss Laura Hansen makes a capital exponent of the part of the cast-off sweetheart; Miss Alice Lindsay Crawford as Eve De Malvoisie keeps the attention of the audience throughout; as the Vicar Mr J. O. Stewart is impressive; Mr Arthur Royston is a soldierly Frank Darlington; and Mr Cory Thomas as the villainous Major shows just the requisite force.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Dundee Empire Company, Limited.—*The Missionary,* a tale of Korea and the Russo-Japanese War, is here this week. Mr Charles Whitlock, besides being the author, also undertakes the title-rôle with considerable effect. The company engaged is a strong one.

GAIETY.—Proprietors, Dundee Gaiety Company, Limited.—*The Anarchist Terror* is being played here by Miss Louie Edmonds' company. The play abounds with exciting and startling situations, including a most realistic electrocution scene. Mr Edward Neville sustains the principal part, and proves himself to be a skilled actor.

EASTBOURNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—This week a departure is made from the usual style of entertainment given here. The Scarlet Mr E's are appearing in a very varied and particularly pleasing musical entertainment. The jester is a gentleman of much versatility, and he plays many parts, and is capital in all. The violinist contributes very excellent solos, and his work is much appreciated. The tenor, baritone, and bass are equally responsible for the well-given musical items, and share equally in the praise well earned, and the services of a skilful accompanist must not be omitted from distinct praise. Mr Wallace Kennedy is the business-manager.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—In the variety entertainment given here this week the Four Maisanos figure successfully in a novel and eccentric musical entertainment which wins much applause. The Sylvester Brothers perform daring feats on a staircase, and are excellent acrobats; the Hoopers display much dexterity in hoop manipulation, and effective comedy is introduced; Miss Marguerite Broadfoote, with pretty face and handsome dress, is a very charming singer; Nadji is a graceful contortionist and equilibrist; the Three Sisters Selwyn are bright dancers and vocalists; Prof. Earle is a smart conjuror; Mr Barton Howard is a successful mimic; and Miss Ella Retford is an animated singer and dancer.

ECCLES.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr P. Ryan-Smith.—We have a variety company here this week, toured by Mr Fred Harcourt. Mr Harcourt mystifies the audience by his clever conjuring, and introduces the "Mysterious Lilith," who performs in mid-air. Miss Lilian Warren is extremely successful with her vocal pictures, being encored repeatedly. Other successful turns are the Three Boleros, Miss Henriette, Sisters Bartholomew, Rita and Roma, and the Four Rosaires.

EDINBURGH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General Manager, Mr G. T. Minshull.—The Milton Rays' company appeared here on Monday in the farcical comedy, *A Hot Night.* Mr Arthur Milton was in capital form as Frank Frith, and won high approbation for his share of the singing. Mr Clifford Morgan presented a diverting figure as Professor Sheerman, and possessing an exceptionally fine voice rendered a dramatic ballad in the second act with splendid effect. Mr Rolando Martin was an exceedingly comical William Whiffles, working hard and successfully all the time; Mr Henry Osman played Fonteroy Flutterwig in first-rate style; and the Mark Maybury of Mr Henry F. Butler was also good. Miss Susie Beavan was an admirable Polly Drake, her charming acting and excellent singing greatly pleasing the audience. Miss Clara Reid proved a smartly vivacious Lucy, and Miss Madeleine L'Estrange made a distinctly amusing appearance as Mrs Flutterwig; while other characters by Misses Madge Wrae and Jessie Wrae were sustained with appropriate spirit and complete success. The dancing of the Eldorado Quartet was a brilliant feature of the entertainment.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss.—An attractive bill-of-fare on Monday was headed by the genial humourist, Mr R. G. Knowles, who had a great reception from a crowded house. Mr Knowles's turn was a liberal one, and new songs and old favourites were obligingly given until time would admit of no more. Mr Harry Freeman is another vocal comedian who is held in high esteem here, and Miss Nellie Wallace also proved an adept in the low comedy line, to the undisguised delight of the audience. Starr and Leslie reappear in their specialty act of comedy and club swinging; Guy Ryder, the boy whistler, showed decided talent; and Ross and Grayson were warmly applauded in their sketch, *The Professor and his Pupil.* The balancing of the Henry Taylor Trio was clever; Mr Will Mitcham's musical items proved highly acceptable, and the dancing of Miss Maud Ross was graceful and effective. Miss Flo D'Orville, comedienne, introduced some smart songs, and Mr W. H. Liddy, comedian, also appeared.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—*Little Red Riding Hood,* another of Tom Ellis's pantomimes, was presented at this house on Monday, when it had a good reception from his numerous patrons in the locality he caters for so well. As the bold, bad Baron Mr Ellis was very successful, and Mr Coleman Davies scored a well-deserved success as the Dame, his songs eliciting loud applause. Mr J. K. Orme was a characteristic Wicked Wolf, and Mr Addison Thomas also created considerable amusement as Private M'Paisley of the Militia. Prince Amorosa was played in a captivating manner by Miss Katie Cameron, who gained high encomiums for her bright acting, charming singing, and clever dancing. Miss Eunice Udall deserves high praise for her talented representation of Red Riding Hood, and made quite a hit with some of her ditties. Miss Kitty Thomas scored a success as the Demon Electrician, and Miss Bella Crooks was an attractive Fairy Queen. Miss Kittie Clarke made a sprightly second boy, and rendered her one solo with notable taste and expression, while with Miss Lily Glynne, the second girl, she danced particularly well. More clever dancing was given by the lively Sisters Alvyn to the full satisfaction of the audience. The pantomime concluded with a harlequinade, produced by Mr Coleman Davies on the good old-fashioned lines, supported by Mr Tom Ellis, clown; Mr J. K. Orme, pantaloon; Mr Coleman Davies, policeman; and Misses Minnie and Maggie Alvyn, harlequina and columbine.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland.—Mrs Lewis Waller's company in *Zaza* opened here on Monday. Miss Violet Fulton in the title-rôle is capital; Mr Eric Mayne acts with power and discretion as Bernard Dufresne; Mr J. Spurling is excellent as the Duc De Brisac; Mr Edmund Lea appears with success as Cascart; Miss Kate Kearney is a humorous Rosa; Miss Pauline Hague sustains the part of Madame Dufresne admirably; Miss Lena M'Naughton makes the most of the small part of Florianne; and Miss Nina Heathe is a pretty and graceful Toto.

VICTORIA PIER, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr H. De Manche; Resident-Manager, Mr C. Leybourne.—The vocalists engaged here this week are Miss Lalla Perry, soprano; Mr Frederick Hudson, baritone; Mr Walter Graham, who gives a clever marionette performance; and the Red Viennese Band, which is excellent.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr H. M. Schulz.—Miss Freda Stirling, soprano and mandolinist, is appearing here with success; Mr Fred Daniels, comedian, is pleasing; the animated pictures are kept up to date; and the Ladies' Blue Salon Band is much appreciated.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr H. Hopkins.—The fascinating drama, *A Beautiful Fiend,* provides an interesting race week holiday attraction at this playhouse. As Ivan Paulovitch Mr Montague Beaudyn scores a distinct success, while Mr Polson Turner makes the most of the character of Count Fedor Karateff. As Sergius Strogoff Mr Harold B. Lewis acts capably, and Mr Chas. Kean is a first-rate Malachi. As Nicholai Trolski Mr Frank Stanley makes a decided hit. In the principal female rôle of Wanda Lubinoff Miss Miriam Lewes scores a distinct success, while Miss Irene Munroe is a first-rate Nadine Karateff. Miss Annie Clunn acts capably in the character of Patty Woodlands.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Bolam and Bacon; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Smith.—The holiday programme provided at this variety theatre is headed by the Waldrons, who provide an amusing comedy turn. Others who contribute to the bill are Miss Florry Cooper, vocalist; Alexander and M'Sparron, comedians; Joe Humphries, comedian; Sisters Urma, trapeze experts; Miss Fanny Robina, burlesque actress; and Fee Lung, the Chinese conjuror and illusionist.

GLASGOW.

ROYALTY THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr H. Macfarlane.—The attraction here this week is Mr Thomas Thorne and his company, in *Our Boys,* which seems to have lost none of its charm with local playgoers. Mr Thomas Thorne repeats his highly amusing representation of Perkin Middlewick. Mr Norman Clark cleverly impersonates the part of Sir Geoffrey Champneys. Charles Middlewick is briskly played by Mr Philip Hewland, and Mr George Mudie, jun., as Talbot Champneys has a part for which he is admirably suited. Miss Stewart Innes makes a dainty and winsome Violet Melrose, Miss Marie Dennet as Mary Melrose presents a pleasing portrayal, and Miss Edith Hesketh is a smart Belinda. Miss Bessie Harrison is most successful as Clarissa Champneys. Mr Reginald A. Hunt is an able Kempster. The comedy is preceded by the one-act play, *The Setting of the Sun.*

METROPOLE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry W. Day.—*Lord Edward; or,* 98, is drawing large audiences here this week. Lord Edward has a capital representative in Mr Fred Lloyd. Mr James O'Brien as Thady is a great favourite, and his reappearance is very welcome. Mr Frank Breen gives a clever study of the part of Higgins, a remark equally applicable to Mr Dane Clarke as Frances Magan. Miss Monica Kelly is good as Katey Malone, as Pamela Miss Daisy Russell scores, and Miss Ada Arnott is to be congratulated on her sympathetic acting in the rôle of the Comtesse. Neilson is well played by Mr I. Ireland. The staging and scenery are most effective.

WHITEVALE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Geo. Green.—The lively summer pantomime, *The Trippers,* is proving a strong attraction at this house. Mr Charles Majilton as Adolphus Noodle indulges in some capital fooling, and is ably assisted in this line by Mr H. Ashmore as Professor Pimpleton, Mr Dickie Clare as Billy, and by Messrs Sam Thomson and Sam Kelly as the M'Nabs. Miss Maddie Majilton makes a handsome Prince Paragon, and as Polly and Pauline the Misses Madge and Vesta Brownie show considerable talent.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr H. E. Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr W. H. Howard; Assistant-Manager, Mr G. Anthony.—Marie Loftus is at the head of a strong company here, and receives the usual enthusiastic welcome to her native city. Lee, Bentley, and company appear in a sketch *A Tooth for a Tooth,* which is capitally acted, and a refined vocal and instrumental show is given by the Four Elysians, while Amelia Lagrezo charms the audience with the quality and compass of her voice. Wilson Hallett's whistling and imitations of children are well received, as also are the musical entertainment of Orpheus and the characteristic dances of the Northern Troupe. The Norman Leonard Trio's musical sketch is good, and a couple of funny comedians are found in J. W. Rickaby and Lawrence Barclay respectively, the song and dance line being well represented by the Sisters Lunelle and Beatrice Renee.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and T. Barrasford.—The programme here this week is both varied and interesting, the outstanding item being the Seven Picchianis, a marvellous troupe of acrobats, which includes several ladies. The remainder of the programme comprises several excellent turns, notably the Creo Brothers, in an acrobatic comedy sketch; Francois Rothig, expert conjuror; the Three Laurels, acrobats; Dolly, Maude, and Agnes, the singing box makers; the Harvey Boys, comedians and boxers; Wieland, comedy juggler; the Three Seldons, athletic statue artistes; Harry Conlin, comedian; Clarke's Nippers, club swingers and boxers; the Sousloffs, tourbillon dancers; and a series of up-to-date animated pictures.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs Rich Waldon and Thos. Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr David Douglas.—This week some interesting bouts are seen between our local champions and the Belgian wrestler, Frans De Ridden, who offers £10 to any Scottish wrestler (bar Alex. Munro) whom he fails to throw in fifteen minutes. The new sketch of Donaldson Brothers and Ardel goes remarkably well, and the wonderful performance of Mons. De Henau—painting, &c., with his toes—is also capitally received. Paul Vandy contributes a smart juggling act, and Madge and Morton give clever instrumental selections, while the Arleys do some amusing cycling tricks, the remainder of the programme being ably sustained by Harry Leybourne, Nora Emerald, Herbert La Martine; and Mdlle. Aladina's performing cockatoos.

GRAVESEND.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Captain H. E. Davis; General Manager, Mr David Hart.—Percy Murray has been appearing in his American success *The Only Pair* again this week with undimished enthusiasm. Marie Blythe, comedienne, pays a welcome return visit; Tom P. Carroll, comedian and dancer, soon places himself on good terms with his audience. As a characteristic and descriptive vocalist Carrie Leslie wins considerable applause; T. B. Talbot, eccentric singing comedian and expert vocalist, does well; and praise is to be accorded to Maude Ford, comedienne.

GLOUCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr W. H. Weller.—A capital variety company is appearing here this week. Will Rain and company in the pantomimic sketch *A Quiet Night* head the bill. Atroy, juggler and hoop-roller; the Brothers Onda, in a smart triple-bar act, "On Deck;" Viola, clever instrumentalist; Bob Stephenson, Irish comedian and dancer; Minnie D'Aubyn, vocalist; Wallace Whitney, humourist; and Miss Beatie Foster, serio and dancer, are all well received.

GREAT GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr S. Tolfree.—Mr Wm. A. Armour's company is presenting *What a Woman Did* here this week. Miss Dora Price ably represents Elsie De l'Orme, and Mr Armour appears with credit as Conrad. Miss Louise Cove does well as La Papillon. Mr Frank Adair is successful as Raffaelle Duroe; Mr Owen Edwin is good as Pitou; Mr Will Simpson is amusing as Fritz Von Hœgetheim; and good comedy is provided by Miss Tina Shaw as Fanchon and Mr Fred Danvers as Peter Pippin.

HIPPODROME.—The Daunton-Shaw Troupe of trick cyclists has again been visiting us this week. Their feats are wonderful. The Wartenburg Brothers do a novel turn of foot equilibristic displays. Max Sterling exhibits a number of astonishing illusions. Lily Jackson is a successful male impersonator. Cris contributes a novel ventriloquial turn. Master Harry Avery is a boy vocalist with a pleasing soprano. The rest of the company is made up by Alf Brookes, comedian, and Mark Lane, comedian.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W. Nightingale.—This week Mr Alfred B. Cross is here with a good company in the dramatic version of Hall Caine's famous novel "The Manxman." Mr A. B. Cross, a clever artiste, is most successful in the rôle of Pete. Kate Cregeen is exceedingly well played by Miss Minnie Watersford, whilst Philip Christian is in the able hands of Mr Richard Vane. Mr Fred Mace as the publican, Cæsar Cregeen, is particularly good, as also are other members of the company.

GUERNSEY.

LES TERRES HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr Edward Smith.—Frank Hope, trick cyclist, has been retained here another week; Midshipman Heasy is well received; Hanlan and Carl repeat their clever gymnastic feats; Prof. M'Cann introduces his wonderfully clever dogs; Miss Croft scores with her illustrated songs; and the new Bioscope concludes a first-class entertainment.

HALIFAX.

GRAND THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—An enjoyable entertainment is given here nightly, to which the following contribute:—Carrie Lawrie's Juveniles, a set of well-trained children who sing and dance with much success; the Jeteys, a couple of coloured vocalists and dancers; the Le Barrs, comedy gymnasts; Leonard and White, vocalists and dancers; Daisy Davidson, a pleasing singer with a good voice; James Ferguson, a laughable comedian; the Biograph; and an electrical spectacular display entitled "The Devil in Paradise," which makes a gorgeous picture.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Steuart Cecil.—Carl Hertz, the successful magician and illusionist, is the prominent feature of this week's show; Will Musgrave, comedian, is very popular; Harry Zetter does some wonderful dances; Charles Johnson shines in a sample of cake-walking; the Steinway Glee Singers are a quartet of efficient vocalists; Amstel and Luie do a funny turn; Letty Grey and company have a laughable musical sketch; and Pattie Bella, comedienne, is appreciated.

HANLEY.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr James Wynes.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr J. Edward Whitty's company occupies the stage here this week in *The World's Desire*. The piece is nicely mounted and is well acted. Miss Van Praagh as Dora Mutley plays with skill. Mr Hartwell T. Kirkby as the villain, Tridley, does exceptionally well; Mr Whitty is a clever exponent of Robert and Henry Selkirk; Mr Harry Belford is an amusing Nathaniel Mutley; Mr Frank Powell is effective as the groom; and Mr Thomas Blakeman is seen to advantage. Miss Nettie Schrier as Helen Berkshaw is natural, and Little Ella is worthy of praise.

HARTLEPOOL.

EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; General Manager, Mr Harry Burns.—Yamamotos and Miss Koyoshi are topping the bill here with great success and are performing wonderful equilibristic feats. The Four M.P.'s are submitting a varied musical programme which is at once clever and attractive, especially Miss Daisy Palmer's imitation of Sousa. *He, She, and It*, by Rivington and Gordon, is screamingly funny. Another good turn is that by the Vernons (Tony and Flo), whose paper tearing wins boundless admiration, whilst their comedy also appeals strongly. The Patty Bros., head walkers and balancers, give a capital show, and duets by the Sisters Terry are highly appreciated, each night encores being demanded. Harry Jennings, Andy Fagan, comedians and dancers, and capital Bioscope pictures complete a good bill-of-fare.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr George H. Gaze.—Mr W. H. Hallatt and company are here this week with *Two Little Sailor Boys*. Mr W. H. Hallatt plays Commander Noel Tregarthen successfully; Miss Ethel Francess sustains the rôle of Tom Yorke admirably; and Miss Effie D. Crawford acts well as Cyril Grey. Much drollery is supplied by Mr Tom E. Sinclair as Ben Baxter, Mr Oscar Power as Jolly Jack, A.B., and Miss Connie Meadows as Lucy Wilson. The villainies of the piece are forcefully presented by Mr Leonard Booker in the rôle of Lieut. Richd. Redstone and by Miss Blanche Steele as the adventuress, Lola Grey. Miss Marie Daventry makes a sweet womanly Mildred Grey, and as the Admiral Mr Geo. Cecil Murray is convincing. A good impersonation of Jim Royston is submitted by Mr Ambrose Horton, and Mr Victor Gardom shows capability as Capt. Tom Yorke.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr John D. Hunter.—The Empire Concert Party are occupying the boards here this week. The programme consists of a series of songs and dances in a musical scena entitled *A Trip to Tokio*, which the artistes carry out very successfully in appropriate Japanese costume. The principal vocalists are the Misses D. and V. Hayden, Miss Agnes Mann, Mr Charles Leverton, and Mr Head Barrs. Mr Reginald Wishart gives a remarkable exhibition of releasing himself from a number of handcuffs and mysteriously appearing from apparently locked and corded boxes.

ST. LEONARD'S PIER PAVILION.—Local Manager, Mr Elvey Thomas; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—Mr Orton Tewson's No. 1 company is appearing in the musical drama entitled *My Sweetheart*. The piece is very well staged and is attracting good audiences. Mr Broughton Black makes an excellent Tony Faust. His songs are very original and taking. Mr Orton Tewson quite realises the part of Joe Shotwell, the broken-down man; Mr Chas. D. Steele is amusing as Dudley Harcourt; a dignified doctor is found in Mr Allan Cleaver; a realistic impersonation of the gambler is shown by Mr John S. Truphet; Miss Florence Hersee gives a charming rendering of the part of Tina (My Sweetheart); Miss Lillie Drayton successfully depicts the farmer's wife; Mrs Fleeter (an adventuress) is admirably real, and Miss May Daniel naturally excites in the character keen repugnance.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur.—Mr and Mrs F. G. Kimberley's company is here for the week with the drama, entitled *A Fight for Life*. The piece has its full share of sensational situations, and the cast engaged makes good use of the opportunities presented. Miss Clara Santley does not spare herself in the representation of the heavy and trying part of La Cardell, Miss Gracie Jones as Marie providing a complete contrast, sympathetically played. Miss Edie Macklin is lively as Suzanne, and is associated with Mr Tom Lisbourne in furnishing the lighter elements. The two sons of La Cardell are played with marked appreciation of the contrasting temperaments of the two, Mr Henry Hall being the retiring, crippled Jean and Mr Harry Lyndon the boisterous, tyrannical Carlos. Mr James Hont as Miser Ferrand and Mr Ellerslie Pyne as Count Adrian contribute adequate support in their respective lines.

HULL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr W. F. Morton.—*Life's Sweetest Sin* is a melodrama that teems with novelty, the submarine scene being exciting to a degree. The author, Mr T. Arthur Jones, fills effectively the rôle of Captain Harold Marston. A charming companion picture of the heroine is presented by Miss Madge Morley. The heavy rôle is in the hands of that capable actor Mr Oswald Douglas. The Bioscope pictures are a big draw.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr John Hart; Local Manager, Mr H. Esden.—The play *Fatal Fortune* has drawn large houses, the musical items adding to its attractiveness. It is brimful of comic episodes, which contrast favourably with the heavier side. Mr Penfold Field's company is a very effective one.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Sole Owner, Mr W. Morton; Manager, Mr Geo. Morton.—*The Grip of the Law* is a stirring drama that is very popular, crowded house being the rule. It has many dramatic possibilities, and allows Mr Nicholls to shine in an exceedingly comic rôle. The Bioscope pictures of the war are much appreciated.

PALACE THEATRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Local Manager, Mr A. Graham.—The Palace patrons have been highly entertained and amused this week by the Boissets, in their sketch, *The Dock Strike*. Newhouse and Ward are clever trick cyclists, and the rest of the company is equal to the Palace demands.

ALHAMBRA.—Resident Manager, Mr C. J. Bartlett Perry.—E. B. Seener's Clarkassen troupe make a welcome reappearance here in their clever songs and dances. The fat boy arouses much interest; the Westwoods perform some smart bicycling tricks; Clarice Netta, balladist, has a particularly sweet voice, and is a welcome turn. A first appearance here is made by Burke and M'Voy, in a smart comedy tumbling act; Lily Flexmore is a marvellous legmania artist; and Lall Cliffe is a comedienne and dancer of ability. Bert Byrne also appears with a choice selection of songs.

ILKESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr L. F. A. Rogers.—*First Class*, a drama by F. A. Scudamore, is presented here this week in capital fashion by Messrs Imbert and Wright's company. Mr Fred C. Imbert is the life and soul of the piece as Dan; Mr Leonard Thackeray is the able exponent of villainy, Lewis Montford, alias "First Class"; Mr Gerald Nolan gives an easy impersonation of Mr Franklin; and Mr Leonard Clarke makes Jack Stroud an interesting character. Mr C. Mason Davidson invests the part of Philip Roscoe with manly assurance; Mr Dick Seddon is natural as Nosey; and Mr Tom Kirkwood is excellent as Richard Clerkwell. Peggy, the waif, is well handled by Miss Ellen Armor; Montford's mistress, Mildred, is tactfully portrayed by Miss Isabel Innes; Miss Emily Handley is a lovable Mrs Stroud; and Miss Lizzie Inglis is painstaking as Florence Franklin.

POPLAR PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Jabez Barber.—Harry Linton, actor and descriptive vocalist; Bob Gardner, Milanese piper; and Emily Somers, serio and descriptive vocalist, are welcome additions to the programme.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr Joe Richards.—The special attractions this week are Frank Whiteley, black and white eccentric artiste; Charles Bush, comedian and dancer; Joe Wright, vocalist and violinist; and Grace Day, up-to-date comedienne.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Business-Manager, Mr Geo. M. Slater.—For this, the last week of the season, Messrs Marris and Bickford's company, presenting the musical drama *Somebody's Sweetheart*, is the attraction. The songs and dances that are interspersed add to its attractiveness. Miss Ethel M. Ward plays the principal part, Lulu, in capital style, and Messrs Harry Russell as Blabbs, Melville Bickford as Stephen Leverton, and R. Mansell Fane as Stanton Ashleigh are others who should be singled out for embodiments of merit. On Monday evening Mr Geo. M. Slater takes his farewell benefit.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal.—Nothing like Mr Fred Ginnett's ingenious contrivance, *Larks in the Lake*, has ever been witnessed on a Leicester stage before. In the space of fifty seconds the stage is flooded with ten thousand gallons of water, in which boats and ducks float about, and the antics and funniosities of the comedians that take part therein cause the greatest merriment. The whole performance reflects the utmost credit on both Mr Ginnett and the local stage-manager. Mark Sheridan returns and scores his usual big success. A special attraction is the films of the great walk from Northampton to Leicester on Saturday last, which depicts the struggle at various places en route. The Brothers Poluski, who are warm favourites with local audiences, are introducing their latest idea, *Motor Mania*. The "jolly jabbering juggler," Griff, gives an enjoyable turn, his patter causing the greatest laughter. Stelling and Revell are smart on the bars; Carabet's dogs are put through a performance of exceptional merit; Stephens and Rennoir, speciality comedians and dancers, score a success; and other turns are the Sisters Govell, duettists and dancers; Will Johnson, a funny comedian; and Daisy Martell, comedienne and dancer.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—The military patriotic scena *Balaclava*, introducing Sergeant-Major Parkinson (late of the 11th Hussars), one of the survivors, occupies the chief position on the bill this week. Mdlle. De Rose, the lady Foli, scores her usual big success; Condon and Preston are smart comedians and dancers; J. H. Hawtrey, actor-vocalist, is very popular; Lily Turner, vocalist, sings well; and other artists appearing are Eugene Miska, speciality magician; Ada Whitton, male impersonator; and Arthur Royce, comedian and dancer.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—The Cullane Trio head the bill here this week in their entertainment entitled *The Dude's Dilemma*, which is very amusing. Messrs Hilton and Hilton please the audience with their bar performance. Miss Maggie Rimmer, comedienne and dancer, does well in her songs and dances. Messrs Fields and Lewis in their comedy act work exceedingly hard. The M'Kays, comedy duo and lightning painters, are a good turn, as is also Miss Maude Needham, comedienne, and Mr Charles Craston, comedian. The Russo-Japanese war pictures are interesting.

LEEDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr R. Ernest Liston.—Messrs Draycott and Peppin's company is here with a strong drama, *The Stolen Birthright*. The piece is presented in realistic and effective style. Mr Chas. Draycott plays with considerable dramatic power; Miss Lydia Donovan is to be credited with an excellent impersonation of the Princess Miranda; some welcome humour is shown by Mr W. E. Brandon and Miss Celestine Brandon, and other prominent members of the cast are Mr C. Quinton Fulford and Miss Beatrice Court.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Chas. Bush.—Another strong variety programme is attracting considerable patronage here, the entertainers including Frank Coyle, a popular comedian; the Dainton Girls, a troupe of clever dancers; Miss La Clair, with effective illustrated songs; the Boston Twins, comic entertainers; and Pansie D'Alforde, violin soloist. The animated pictures shown are a capital lot, and prove a most popular feature.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss Empires, Limited; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen.—George Gray and company are here in the sketch *The Fighting Parson*. The bill also includes that most popular of eccentric comedians, Wilkie Bard, whose turn is a tremendous success. Frame, the Scot, is remaining a second week to delight his many admirers. The Howards are again successful with a smart musical turn. Louie Willis, vocalist, sings in charming style. Some expert club juggling is done by Geraldo, and Gertrella, a graceful danseuse and trapeze artiste, is a popular line. Other entertaining turns are submitted by Nellie Stratton, comedienne; Albert Gilbert, topical vocalist; and Mabel La Blanche, comedienne.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr Thos. Barrasford; General Managers, Messrs Edgar O. Waller and Chas. Weldon.—The George Bonhair Troupe of acrobats lead here with a remarkably fine Risley act; Paulton and Dooley give an expert exhibition of trick cycle-riding; and an acrobatic turn of considerable merit is done by the Luppu Trio. That comic pair Walton and Lester are decidedly entertaining; A. G. Spry, comedian, contributes some clever and amusing business; an expert musical turn by Silvo is well received; whilst the clever and graceful feats of contortion by Nelly Vonare are duly appreciated. Jack and Evelyn succeed with a neat comedy act, and La and Do, vocalists, and Harry Barker, comedian, complete the programme.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Jones.—The most popular feature of the week's programme here is the tuneful singing of the Sisters Jonghmans. A comic musical turn by the Anartos goes very well; J. K. Reynolds arouses considerable interest by the presentation of a sensational sketch, *Conscience;* and the Two Mezzettis score a big success with their comedy bar act. Some expert tambourine manipulation is done by J. P. Carrol; Barney Stuart is here again with his well-known show; and we are further entertained by Cliff and Kean, speciality act, and George Wright, vocal comedian.

LIVERPOOL.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Licensee, Mr J. G. Howard; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Montgomery, jun.—The north-end theatre this week has offered an acceptable play to its patrons. *Her Fatal Past* is a four-act drama replete with stirring episodes, which comprise the introduction of a motor-car, which is driven at some considerable speed across the stage. The heaviness of the play is relieved by some genuine comedy. The company is that of Mr Edward Ward's No. 1, and is particularly good. Among the principals are Mr Robert Watson, Mr Wilson Coleman, Mr T. E. Ward, Mr T. C. Glenville, Miss Ward, Miss Lillie Monckton, Miss Dorothy Tull-Holl, and Miss Marie Ault.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—A programme of exceptional brilliance is drawing excellent business here. O. G. Seymour and Maud C. Dupre top the bill with a highly amusing act, the former giving some almost incredible high jumping. Lava displays skill as an equilibrist; the Motramos are well received; Bijou Russell is very successful as a dancer; Vendome and Chase are good as society entertainers; and Frank Gee, comedian; Marie Gibson, soprano; and Beaty and Blanche, dancers, are all well received. Mr Fred Coles, the exceedingly popular acting-manager, had a bumper complimentary benefit on Thursday night.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Harris Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons.—The 10.30 *Down Express* has been played here during the week to good houses. In addition to many sensational and realistic incidents, the drama, which has visited Liverpool on former occasions, contains a large amount of comedy which tends to lighten the heavy parts of the story. There are several cleverly set scenes. The company engaged is under the direction of the author, Mr Horace Stanley, and includes Mr Leslie Beaufort, Mr Charles Boult, Mr C. P. Wentworth, Miss Adelaide Clare, and Miss Kate Kilpack.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; General Manager, Mr F. Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A. Cook.—Good business has been done here during the week, owing to the strong bill that has been presented. At the top is the popular Lil Hawthorne, who is always given a hearty welcome here. She renders several of her well-known songs and one of her latest. Mr Lew Sully, described as "President of the Laugh Trust," makes his first appearance, and his songs and patter are after the style of R. G. Knowles. He keeps his auditors in a merry mood. The Bros. Egbert give a highly diverting sketch, *The Happy Dustman;* a clever turn as foot equilibrists is that of the Three Sisters Andersen; Mr Mark Melford proved very humorous as a K.C. in a breach of promise case entitled *Nonsuited;* and others in the programme are Mr Steve M'Carthy, eccentric comedian; Drew and Alders, speciality comedians; Miss Annie Reid, comedienne and dancer; Boswell's Circus; the Maningos, Continental head and hand balancers; Willie Haigh, the singing pit boy; Miss Marie Kendall, comedienne; La Berat, serpentine dancer; and Ike Scott and Son, eccentric comedians.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—A well-diversified programme is presented here this week. Principal in the long list is Morcaschani, the Creole baritone, whose rich and powerful voice has been heard to great advantage. She received a hearty and well-merited greeting. As a Japanese equilibrist N. Kioto performs some wonderful tricks; a pleasing exhibition of xylophone playing is offered by the Musical Avolos; the Meers are very funny with their wire act; Miss Emma Don and her company give a delightful scena entitled *Scenes from London Life;* and others who appear include the Brothers Lang, comedians; Miss Mary M. Glenn, ballad vocalist; Meier and Mora, with a ball-punching exhibition; the Three Prestons, comedy sketch artistes; the Morton Trio, with their new operetta *The Dandy Bandits;* Mons. Vincent, table tumbling; and Smith and Johnson, the coloured couple, in "The Skies are Blue."

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr F. O'Toole.—At the East-end theatre this week a programme of merit is given, included in it being Ben Hur, juvenile athlete, with a smart weight-lifting and physical culture exhibition; Curtis and Vanity, American comedians; Bob Beech, descriptive vocalist; Vance Brothers, with a pretty instrumental interlude, "Harmonious Hilarity;" Gus Hindell, comedian; Halsey and Bowers, comedy act; and the Royal Bioscope.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr Edwin W. Smith.—Included in a long list of good turns given here this week are Harry Gray, with his sketches from life (his first appearance here); Gerald Mount, vocalist and mimic; Maud Clifton, vocalist and burlesque actress; Hughes and Elliott, vocalists and dancers; George Edney, comedian and actor-vocalist; the Two Dominoes, clown and donkey; and Lil Frohmann, comedienne and dancer.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—This popular place of amusement comes in for a fair share of public patronage, due, no doubt, to the acceptable programmes that are presented. This week we have the Freans, comedians and dancers, in a humorous sketch; Silent Tait, a clever conjuror; the great Little Valdo and Derry Dame in a neat comedy act, *The Pranks of a Peasant;* Amy Donna, vocalist and dancer; Johnny Chippendale, comedian and dancer; Walter Purvis, vocalist and patter comedian; and the Bioscope.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery.—The programme here this week contains several attractive turns; Little Ganty, comedian, has a budget of good things; Onda and Leon are humorous conversational gymnasts; Tom Maxwell and Virginia Frances are able vocalists and speciality artists; Pete and Minnie Lee provide a good turn as black and white comedy artists; and others are Cecil Lidden and Elsie Hayward, comedy team; Edith St. Clare, burlesque actress; and Madge May, comedienne.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—The South-End hall is being well supported, crowded audiences being the rule. This week there are the Three De Veres, with their novelty pot pourri; the Three Macs, comedian sketch artistes; Lily Lever, vocalist and burlesque actress; Brindall and Cooper, comedians and dancers; Fred Collins, sketch character comedian; Master Arthur M'Nabb, dancer and vocalist; Bros. Carr, head to head equilibrists; Rose Conroy, comedienne; and Frank Mulvan, comedian.

LOWESTOFT.

MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Ernest A. Smith.—Messrs Cyril Melton and Edwin C. Jazon's company commenced their tour here this week in the drama *The Milestones of Life*. The result was an instantaneous success. The members of the company work together with the most successful results, and some capital musical numbers and clever dances are introduced. Mr Ernest Owttrim fills the part of Jack Gower in a most convincing manner, giving his lines with much effect. Mr Cyril Melton as Jim Waring acts with dramatic force; Mr Jack Crondon as Alec Webb and Mr W. S. Parkes as Simon Crane render good service; and Messrs E. Lambert and Edwin Coates are also well placed. Mary Gower is ably sustained by Miss Helena Walbran; Miss Ethel Serjeant as Annie Waring displays considerable talent; and Miss Gertrude Le Sage is humorous as Lavina Crane. Miss Beattie Wilson makes a bright Bessie Spinks and Little Rosie Dane is a clever child actress.

MANCHESTER.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr George Lee.—Mr Henry Johnston's company in the musical comedy, *The Houp-La Girl*, is playing here this week. The scenery is good, the dresses pretty, several tuneful songs are introduced, and some spirited dancing is done by the Rosie Rice Quartet, and meets with warm approval. La Belle Rosiere is charmingly played by Miss Evelyn Hughes, who is also a delightful dancer. Mr Frank Statair is well placed as the artist, Mr Cecil H. Raymond and Mr Eric Dalvere work hard as the Prince and Major respectively, and Mr Francis Hope scores a success in a suitable part. Praise should also be accorded to Miss Maggie Fraser and Miss Edith Haley, promising juveniles, who dance and sing effectively; and mention should be made of the capable work of the Misses Harland, Bella Fossette, and Mary Palmer, and of the pleasing performance of Miss Hilda Greville as Stephanie. The orchestra is under the direction of the composer, Mr Antonius Baker.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr H. M. Thorburn.—*Fun on the Bristol* is the attraction here this week, played by a capable company, under the direction of Mr Wellesley Smith. The object of the piece—to make the audience laugh—is certainly achieved, Mr Russell Wallett being conspicuously successful in the rôle of Widow O'Brien. Mr Wellesley Smith as Captain Cranberry; Mr J. C. Graves as Jerry Thompson, Miss Blanche Blanchard, a capital dancer, as Bella; and Miss Edna Knollys as Nora O'Brien, all render valuable assistance; Mr George Sydenham as the Italian musician, being, perhaps, the best of the remainder. Miss Lottie Stone's Four Dancing Divinities are included in a long list of incidental specialities.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr John F. Preston's *Streets of Manchester* is being played here successfully.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Wm. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A strong company is here this week, including the Goodfellows, two smart American comedy artistes and dancers; and Flem and Brok, Continental eccentrics and aerial boxers. A novel and interesting turn are the Bollingers, original rag pickers of Paris, a clever musical act being contributed by the Ottawa Trio. Other excellent and diverting turns are the Two Falcons, comedy acrobats; Michel and Polo, in an athletic sensation; Drum and Major, comedy artistes and bâton spinners; Vera Mayne, comedienne; the Four Medlie Singers; and Ada Seale, the Salford singing mill girl.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A big draw is here this week in the shape of Mr J. F. Elliston's company in *The Octoroon*, a play depicting plantation life in Louisiana. The performance is embellished by numerous real Negro specialities, the chief of which are the cake-walking performances of the Dahomian cake-walk champions (with the presentation of a cake as in *In Dahomey*), and the introduction of Jimm E. James, the American banjo and bone player. In addition, a cake-walk competition is arranged in the programme for local amateurs, with substantial prizes for the winners. The presentment of the play is uniformly good by the well-chosen cast, who were given a hearty reception on the opening night.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A clever performance here this week is that of the highly-trained animals introduced into Marnitschew's Circus. Steel and Laing, speciality artists, provide an entertaining turn, with smart dancing and tumbling; Martin, an illusionist, performs some really smart tricks, and is well received; Hector and Paulus are exceedingly clever comedy equilibrists; and Clarence and Bell, eccentric comedians, cause much laughter with their patter and also dance well. Other good turns are Henri, a strong man, who executes several difficult muscular feats; Bella Moody, a pleasing male impersonator; Bob Selvidge, comedian; the Three Sisters Leigh, entertainers; Emmie Milsted, comedienne; and the Hippodrome pictures.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Here this week the bill is topped by Launceston Elliott, who prefaces his exhibition of great strength with poses on the revolving pedestal. The interest which this arouses is extended also to the pleasing singing and instrumental playing of the Bodina Trio and to the Four Burgatiles, who contribute a musical act with a dash of comedy. The Four Arizonas, contortionists and tumblers, are received with much favour; and Lucretia, speciality dancer; Arthur Bright, comedian; and Molly Bawn, comedienne; each supply an enjoyable turn. Will Percival, holder of the championship belt, which was held in the olden days by Dan Leno, shows what can be done with a pair of Lancashire clogs. Kurtz receives rounds of applause for his really remarkable display of juggling; and the Jansens give an acrobatic turn. A series of animated pictures complete.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—A really excellent programme is provided here this week, including that favourite burlesque artist Miss Fannie Leslie, who renders several well-written songs in a most artistic manner, and meets with a deservedly good reception. Another capital turn is that of John E. Coyle, an eccentric comedian of the Robey order, who causes continuous laughter with his funny methods. Wal Pink and company appear to great advantage in a really smart comedy sketch *Counting their Chickens*, which is very cleverly worked, and excellent vocal efforts, well received, are rendered by Violet Grazia, soprano; and Frank Celli, baritone. Other good turns are the Brooklands (Ethel and Bella), charming comediennes and dancers; Harland and Rollison, musical eccentrics; Lil Esplin, comedienne; and Fred Bronte.

GRAND.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford and Will Sley; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—One of the most grotesque musical acts seen in Manchester for some time is the Four Wallnos, who discourse several delightful selections in a highly amusing and original manner, fairly bringing down the house. Another well received turn is that of Farley, Rennie, and Farley in a Continental comedy act, introducing some capital burlesque, singing, dancing, and cortortions. Will English, the real coon, makes a great hit with his eccentric dancing and burlesque walks; Charles Hera juggles in most surprising fashion; Dion Wade scores with his quaint singing of quaint songs; and Dale and O'Malley create roars of laughter with their cross-talking. Others who appear to advantage are Beatrice Bonnie, vocalist; Tom Le May, in his musical speciality act; and Nora Ranson, a clever coon vocalist and dancer. An interesting series of animated pictures complete.

PALACE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr P. Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—A first-rate programme is here this week. Lelia Roze, a most refined comedienne, sings five delightful songs in excellent style; Malcolm Scott makes a decided hit with up-to-date ironical references, and his capital burlesque on *The Christian;* Kopski, the classical pianist, in a répertoire of works by the great masters, is heard to advantage; Walter Groves and company are extremely funny in a comedy sketch, *Twice Married;* and the Ernestine Trio cause screams of laughter with *The Yorkshire Lad in London*. Stanley's electric fountain presents numberless beautiful firework effects; the Five Foys are successful, as usual, in a lively sketch; and B. T. L. Kreeger appears in original comical musical extravaganzas. From last week remains the excellent turn of the Brothers Redmond, eccentric comedians, and the programme is completed by Herbert Betts, comedian; a selection by the orchestra, and a fine set of animated pictures.

MARGATE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr F. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr C. F. Bawtree.—The Armadale company is here this week, appearing with their répertoire of popular plays. On Monday *David Garrick* was staged, and Mr E. Hoggan-Armadale sustained with conspicuous success the rôle of the Drury-lane actor. Miss Marie Florence was exceedingly good as Laura Bedford; Mr Henry Moxon did well as Joshua Bedford; and the other characters were all admirably presented. On Tuesday *The Sleigh Bells* was the attraction, and on Wednesday the bill was changed for *The Vicar of Wakefield*, in which Mr Hoggan-Armadale played pathetically and effectively as Dr. Primrose; Mr Bartlett Garth contributed an excellent piece of work as Mr Burchell; and Mr Fred Cherry made the most of the part of Moses. Mr V. L. Granville was well suited to the rôle of Squire Thornhill. Miss Marie Florence was a successful Olivia, and Miss Violet Wilson an animated and piquant Sophia. Mrs C. E. Matthews was good as Mrs Symonds. Miss Mabel Martin made an excellent Patty Flamborough. *The Lady of Lyons* and *The Lyons Mail* are also in the répertoire.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr E. Macknight; Business Manager, Mr Chas. Hardy.—Rosina and Bristol's *A Trip to Boston* company started a new tour year this week, and on Monday and the following evenings have been accorded a favourable reception. The musical comedy, as it is called, partakes very largely of a variety show, and has taken remarkably well. The several turns in the second act are greatly applauded. Amandus makes up well, and plays with considerable success the part of Mrs O'Leary. Kathleen is well presented by Miss Sheila Desmond, and Norah is bewitchingly played by Miss Florrie Rosina. Mr Arthur Cartwright plays well and sings capitally as the foreign adventurer, Count Piaggi; and Mr Watty Lewis is most amusing as Capt. Crayfish. Mr W. Mackerley is good as Reginald, and Mr Wally Scott is alert and active as the black steward, Leo White. The specialities include the Mascotte Minstrels, Amandus, facial mimic; the Sisters Le Grahame, acrobatic dancers; and Musical Rosina, whose playing on a variety of novel instruments is vociferously applauded.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs George and Charles Imeson.—Mr Frederick Thorne's No. 1 company in the musical comedy *Little Miss Nobody* makes its first appearance before the Middlesbrough public, and is well received. Mr H. C. Barry as Christopher Potter is versatile and clever. Miss Nellie Bowman as Trixie Triplet is vivacious and effective, and Miss Lilly Edmonds in the title-rôle is very successful. The chorus is well balanced and tuneful. The scenery and dresses are pretty.

OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Licensee and Manager, Mr T. Hopcutt.—*East Lynne* is paying another visit to the Opera House, the company being under the direction of Miss Dorothy Oswald, who effectively sustains the rôle of Lady Isabel. Archibald Carlyle is ably played by Mr Herbert Barrs; and Francis Levison is cleverly sustained by Mr Pascoe Bioletti. Barbara Hare is portrayed by Miss Tilly Stewart with much refinement. Miss Maude Montague as Cornelia Carlyle is deserving of praise.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—Edwin Boyde, comedian, heads the bill here and meets with much success. Tom Edwards, the modern Valentine Vox, is a high-class ventriloquist; Miss Blanche Sloan, lady gymnast, does some daring feats; the Zampas are a couple of clever dancers; Miss Nellie Randall, comedienne, makes a good impression; Ossi Souplessi does some wonderful contortionist business; Chas. Gardner, comedian, creates much merriment; and Polk and Kollins are clever banjoists. Some amusing films are shown on the Edisonograph, and the orchestra, under the bâton of Mr G. W. Greenfield, adds much to the success of the performances.

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr Wm. Robinson; Manager, Mr Wm. Ainsworth.—Albert Le Fre occupies the top of the bill at the Oxford, and his efforts to please are very successful. The Swickards, in a comedy singing act, make a hit; Edson and his dog, Doc, are well received; George Adams, songster, comes in for well-earned applause; Georgie Corlass, comedienne, is highly appreciated; and Tambo and Tambo, tambourine experts; Paul Pelham, comedian, and the Jeteys make up an excellent programme.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson.—Mr Harry Esden's company is successfully appearing here in *Rogues and Vagabonds*. Miss Hetty Senior enlists the sympathies of the audience with her natural impersonation of Hilda Jeffries; Mr Bernard Lieli as Fernand Delair gives a strong rendering of the part; Mr John C. Carlyle plays Harry Stamford in forcible manner; and Mr John Cullen as Nathan Baxter and Mr Edward Swinton as John Lamb provide the humorous part of the play with evident success. Miss Georgette Thierry is strongly effective as Vera Laverne; Miss Majory Armstrong gives a capable delineation of Ben the waif; Miss Katherine Veri is good as Sarah Tilley; Mr Wilfred Carson is a smart representative of the Chief Inspector; and Mr Frank Denis scores as Constable Clegg.

NEW BRIGHTON.

GRAND TOWER THEATRE. — Secretary and Manager, Mr Albert Bulmer.—The management here presents an excellent programme this week, headed by the Three Woodbee Wonders, comedy herculean acrobats, whose tricks are as clever as they are amusing. The Sisters Volbeque, duettists and expert dancers; Frank A. Wood, tenor vocalist, with an excellent selection of ballads and operatic items; George Prince, the crazy comedian, with some excellent comic songs and business; Katie Holloway, burlesque actress and dancer; the Haldyne Duo (Mark and Alicia), in a vocal and dancing act; and the Royal Biograph films of the latest interesting events are also attractive items in a well-arranged bill.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr Fred C. Sutcliffe.—For the local holiday week the management have provided capital entertainment by the engagement of Mr Frank Danby and company in the musical comedy *Where's Uncle?* Mr Frank Danby's general smartness and exuberant humour are amply demonstrated by his performance as Gibson Gallivant; Mr T. W. Volt is also well suited as Captain Archie Graham, his impersonation being very enjoyable; while the rôle of Mr Slatem is safely entrusted to Mr Stephen Adeson. As Dorothy Slatem Miss Minnie Hunt acts and sings with her customary charm, and Miss Nellie Bouverie's appearance as Mrs Cummings revives memories of her performance as principal boy in pantomime in this city. Among other favourites who contribute materially to the success of the production may be mentioned Miss Elsie Carew, Messrs Rhys Thomas, Milroy Cooper, and Gus Danby

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr T. W. Rowe.—*The New Magdalen* is the attraction here Especially interesting is the performance by reason of the fact that warm local favourites in Mr A. Clifton Alderson and Miss F. Conyers Radcliffe sustain the leading rôles of Julian Gray and Mercy Merrick respectively, and their excellent impersonations call for unqualified praise. Supporting them is a capable company, and a variety entertainment is presented by the Pierrots of the Period.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Sidney Bacon; Business-Manager, Mr Ernest Bacon.—The perennially popular play, *Jeannie Deans*, is being performed here by Miss Kate Clinton's company, and the holiday audiences have followed the development of the familiar story with unabated interest. Prominent performances are those given by Miss Kate Clinton in the title-rôle, Miss Mary Campbell as Effie Deans, Messrs H. W. Monk, Clifford Marle, W. J. Miller, Neal Fitzwilliam, and T. W. Benson. On Friday *Leah, a Jewess*, was down for production.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—First and foremost in the attractive bill provided here is Harry Lauder, a comedian whose popularity in these parts knows no bounds, and his reception this week has been quite remarkable for the enthusiasm displayed at each performance. Happy Fanny Fields is also a participant in public favour, and Edwin Barwick is singularly happy in hitting off some mannerisms of Sir Henry Irving. It is a real pleasure to listen to the vocal efforts of Alexandra Edwin, and Norman French, with ragtime melody and eccentric dancing, scores a success. The Adonis Trio, burlesque and protean artists, and the American Comedy Four, eccentric vocalists, are well received; and praise may be bestowed on the contributions of Katie Butler, comedienne; New York Nippers, in their act "Bedtime;" Pueblo Brothers, comedians and coon dancers; and Cullen and Carthy, comedians.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr Will H. Boardman.—George Leyton occupies the place of honour this week, and the military scena, *Boys of the Chelsea School*, in which he is assisted by local youngsters, remains an interesting item in his performance. Much laughter has been occasioned by the amusing efforts of Neil Kenyon, the Scotch comedian, whose first appearance here must be pronounced a success. Billy Howard and Katherine Harris secure approval by means of eccentric dancing and entertaining business, and the sketch *The Porter and the Parcel* is acceptably presented by Nellie Howard and Willie Collinson. Mr and Mrs Edward H. Lucas in "Scenes from Dickens" depict the various characters capitally, and Joe Archer has a good song in "Matrimonial Bliss." A lively turn is given by the Australian Twin Andersons, who present their clever novelty dancing together in one skipping-rope. The Imperial Boys' Orchestra, the Lizette Troupe of lady acrobats, Arthur Gill, the double-voiced comedian; and Elsie Rubina, wire-walker, are also noteworthy turns.

NEWPORT.

EMPIRE.—Moss's Empires, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr O Stoll.—Diane De Fontenoy, in the beautiful presentment of *An Artist's Model*, is the admiration of good houses this week. J. W. Rowley, an old favourite, sustains his popularity, and Gintaro, a juggling Jap, comes in for warm recognition. The Eight of Hearts, a bevy of pretty girls, in tuneful songs and dances, provide an enjoyable turn; George Gilbey, in funny songs and patter, succeeds in amusing his hearers, and Ella Dean, a songstress of considerable merit, is accorded well-deserved applause. The Two Jurgens, in a novel performance on globes, show considerable skill; Bennett and Martell are an entertaining pair; and W. H. Clemart presents a clever ventriloquial show. The Bioscope shows some interesting war pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr W. J. Andrews. — Messrs Jerold Heather and George A. De Gray are here this week with their company, playing in the romantic drama *A Life at Stake*. Mr De Gray, the author, figures prominently in his piece as Lieut. Desmond; Mr Heather does well as Jack Hilliard; Mr Harry Turner is a capable Dan Cherry; Mr Arthur Stratton makes the most of the part of Obadiah Sleek; Mr J. L. Edmonde carefully sustains that of Captain Blanchard; Mr Robert Barton is a capital Bill Jolly; Mr A. P. Wilson is satisfactory as Ben Marsden; Miss Etta Turner is good in the part of Madge Seaton; Miss Ollie Smith does well as Lucy Seaton; Miss Cissy Cleveland is pert and pretty as Rose Appleton; and Miss Evelyn Marrable displays ability as Dorothy Marsden.

NEW PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Goodwin Woodward.—Great attractions are provided here this week, Frank Caffrey, Irish comedian, heading the programme with success. Another star turn is that of the Brothers Attilla, weight lifters. Arthur Albert, actor-vocalist, contributes a good turn; Learto, musical comedian, and his clever dog "Babs" furnish an amusing show; Sleath and Aldin in *Dashing Duval* gain great approval; Weston and May are successful in a musical duologue; Jennie Belmore, speciality comedienne, sings with dash and verve; Winnie Scott is a smart soubrette and dancer; and Marie Winsome appears as a male impersonator.

NORTH SHIELDS.

BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee.—The boards here are occupied this week by Messrs J. F. Preston and P. E. Doherty's *Secrets* ——— company, which has attracted large and appreciative audiences. As Lieutenant Herbert Markham Mr Sidney C. Cranston finds plenty of scope for the display of his abilities, and Mr Carl H. Edwards gives a satisfactory representation of the Hon Cecil Cholmondeley. Mr W. E. Winning is particularly good as Nouredin Ali, Mr J. Templar Ellis scores heavily as Ibrahim Al Murad, and Mr W. Woodin makes quite a hit as Peter Wilkins. The part of Ismalia Melida is in the hands of Miss May Carlton, who gives a highly finished interpretation. Miss Molly Hackett successfully depicts Winnie Wilkins, and the remaining parts are ably filled. Specialities are successfully introduced by Miss Molly Hackett, Mr Herbert Woodin, Mr James Clarke, and the Tivoli Quartet.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs John and Fred Coulson.—Mr George Lyttleton and his company, with *At War with the World*, have been cordially received here. Mr George Lyttleton as Tom Redfern infuses much life and vigour into the part. Mr A. Mayhew is clever as Thornton Westmare; Mr F. J. Lewis does well as Gregory Blotts; and Mr G. Lyttleton, jun., scores as Squire Redfern. Miss L. Beaumont as Edna Maddox is worthy of the highest praise; Miss Jane Massey capably sustains the part of Mrs Leslie; Miss Theodora Henries makes the most of Mabel Leslie; and the remaining characters are in good hands.

NEW CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr William Mould.—The race-week programme is headed by Mr Tom Lloyd, eccentric comedian, who has made a great hit. Selbo, club manipulator, has been loudly applauded for his clever performance, and the Two Eltons in their comedy bar act are as successful as ever. The Sisters Brenton, duettists and dancers, meet with much favour; Miss Rhoda Paul, juvenile vocalist, is an immense favourite; Miss Rose Waller, a singer of popular songs, scores heavily; and the Bio-Photoscope still remains a special feature.

NORWICH.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr F. W. Fitt; Musical Director, Captain Selby.—A delightful and varied programme is presented here this week, and large audiences appreciate the talent displayed. The Villions are clever acrobatic cyclists, their steeplechasing and obstacle jumping being marvellous; Miss Frances Haskoil in her illustrated songs obtains much appreciation; Mr Tom Stuart is a clever character impersonator; Miss Daisy Morell is immensely successful in her stirring songs; the Picquays are excellent head and hand balancers; Frank Maura, the Mexican wonder, is a clever foot equilibrist; Rowland Hill is a favourite comedian; and Judge's performing cockatoos, parrots, and macaws give a pleasing and interesting performance. Henry Abdy's canine circus obtains well-merited applause, and Charles Somers in his comedy sketches is an excellent turn.

NOTTINGHAM.

GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr Charles P. Cooke. — A capital company, organised by Mr Esmonde Bramley, is appearing here this week in a round of Shakespearian and classical plays. The scenic arrangements are excellent, and there have been good and appreciative houses. On Monday *Othello* was presented, in which Mr Norman E. Partriege gave a very fine performance, showing histrionic abilities and elocutionary power of a high order. Miss Millie Ford, a Nottingham young lady, essayed the rôle of Desdemona with complete success, demonstrating an artistic conception of the part Mr Cyril Este furnished an acceptable study of Iago, and Mr Baliol Holloway made an adequate interpreter of Cassio. The rest of the cast was ably filled by Misses Vera Meacham and Barbara Fenn, and Messrs David Beattie, Eugene Wellesley, T. E. Marshall, F. Barlow, J. Hinton, and H. Harrald. During the week were also given *Ingomar*, *As You Like It*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *All the World's a Stage*.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Geo. H. Beagle.—Lovers of sensation are again gratified here by the drama *Who is the Woman?* and Miss Ellen Cranston's company is fully alive to the demands made upon it. Mr Clarence Burnette's earnest work in a dual-rôle marks him as a general favourite; Miss Cranston plays with striking power as Zellia de la Sparre, filling the arduous task in an admirable manner; Mr Geo. D. Knight invests the part of the villain, Juan la Caales, with easy nonchalance; and Mr Gerald Byrne interprets his dual-rôle commendably. Mr Frank Brunell (Jollyboy) and Miss Nellie Burnette (Margot) are responsible for most of the humour, and other parts are well sustained by Misses Helene Prescott, Daisy Cordett; and Messrs R. F. Stacey, J. J. Hughes, C. P. Blake, and A. Dumont.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—The songs, patter, and gestures of Little Tich are always so exceedingly comical that the audience are loth to let him depart. A new song, "Bluebeard," created roars of laughter on Monday night, and the little comedian's reception was enthusiastic in the extreme. The versatility of Vasco was abundantly exemplified by his dexterous playing of a large number of instruments, and his turn was thoroughly enjoyable. Lew Wells was somewhat on the same lines, his grotesque manner adding largely to his success. Nothing more charming, dainty, and expert has before been offered here than the trapeze performance of Alexandre and Bertie, and they fully deserved the spontaneous applause. Burns and Evans were again successful with their eccentricities. Slade Murray's contributions were received with every indication of pleasure, and the Bioscope pictures were heartily appreciated. Items by Georgina Leonard, Frank Lynne, and Charles F. Best completed an excellent programme.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr C. C. Dorrill.—Mr W. S. Penley's company is here this week with *Charley's Aunt*. Mr Edwin Wynne's fresh and interesting performance of the title-rôle was a pronounced success; Mr Aubrey Mallalieu made a bright and entertaining Jack Chesney; Mr Walter Pemberton was admirably suited as Stephen Spettigue; Mr Richard Fielding's Colonel Chesney was an excellent performance; and Mr Mark Wylton did well as "Charley."

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells.—Messrs Haldane and Prince's company is here with *Parson Thorn*. Mr Ormonde G. Smethurst achieves success by his consistent and careful portrayal of Rev. John Thorn, and Wylde Crewell has a robust exponent in Mr Ronald Grahame. Mr Sidney Beryl comports himself well as Sir Geoffrey Dashwood; Mr Frank Sutherland creates fun as Mr Paddy O'Quirk; and Mr Bert Haldane is a favourite as P.-C. A. 1 Napoleon Buonaparte Mutton. Miss Lillie A'Dell is graceful and restrained as Dorothy Thoroughgood, and Miss Audrey Canning is effective as Miss Dotsy Doddles. The abandon necessary to the impersonation of Lady Maud Dashwood is cleverly supplied by Miss Edna Hanna.

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PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS EDITH BLANDE.

MISS EDITH BLANDE (in private life Miss Austin Brereton) began her theatrical career at the early age of three years and eight months at Drury-lane Theatre, under the stage-management of Augustus Harris, father of the late Sir Augustus. Before she had reached the age of ten years she had played (under F. B. Chatterton's management) Puck with Phelps; Henri (*Belphegor*), Lazarillo (*Don Cæsar*), François (*Richelieu*), Dauphin (*Louis XI.*) with Charles Dillon; Jeliquet (*Lyons Mail*) with Wilson Barrett; Oliver Twist, with Toole; &c. While still quite a child she went with her mother to America, and for five years sustained such parts as Hendrick (the boy), in *Rip*, with Robert M'Wade, and the same part with M'Kee Rankin; Philip (the boy), in *Enoch Arden*, with Edwin Adams, Oario with Lawrence Barrett, Sam Willoughby, Topsy, &c. Returning to the metropolis, she was at once engaged to play William (*Black-Eyed Susan*) at the Opera Comique, under F. C. Burnand's management, with Fred Dewar, E. Danvers, and Patty Oliver in the cast. Returning to America, Miss Blande then fulfilled a long engagement as a member of Augustin Daly's Fifth-avenue Theatre company, playing seconds to Fanny Davenport's lead. Once again, in London, she was engaged for leading boy (Harry Halyard), in F. C. Burnand's burlesque *My Poll and My Partner Joe* at the Globe Theatre, under the management of Edward Righton, in a cast comprising such names as Mrs John Wood, Harry Paulton, and Edward Righton. Then followed a special engagement with Henry Neville at the Olympic; an eight months' season at the Folly, under the management of Alex. Henderson: a special engagement at the Royalty in the burlesque *Venus*, under Edgar Bruce's management. Miss Blande stayed in this engagement for ten months, only one change of bill taking place during that period. She was then selected by H. B Farnie to create the part of Claudine at the Alhambra in his version of Offenbach's opera *La Fille du Tambour Major*; this part she played for the entire run (nine months), and received a most complimentary notice on her stage business and byplay written by Henry Irving (not then Sir Henry) in one of the Christmas annuals. Returning to the Olympic, Miss Blande created Rose, the second part in Edward Soloman's opera *Claude Duval*, under R. D'Oyly Carte's management. Another American engagement followed at the Fifth-avenue Theatre, in *The Vicar of Bray*. Once more in England, Miss Blande was engaged by Augustus Harris to play the leading part in *Pluck* on tour, with Henry

Photo by Draycott.

MISS EDITH BLANDE.

Hamilton as leading man. After yet another trip across the "pond," Miss Blande played principal boy in pantomime at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester; then principal boy at the Novelty Theatre, under Willie Edouin's management, and afterwards as principal contralto with Miss Kate Santley's opera company on tour. During this engagement Miss Blande married Mr Austin Brereton, the well-known critic. At Christmas Miss Blande fulfilled an engagement as principal boy at Drury-lane with Augustus Harris. Following this she went out with Austin Brereton's company on a nearly two years' tour as Princess Claudia Merakoff, in *The Red Lamp*. Then followed a short season as Marina, in *Barnes of New York*. Extending her voyages, she then went to Australia to Williamson, Garner, and Musgrove, the special year's engagement being afterwards extended to two years. Among many parts may be noted Lola (*Silver Falls*), Formosa, &c. Then followed a six weeks' starring engagement in Adelaide, at Wybert Reeve's theatre, as Miami, in *Green Bushes*, and Nelly Armroyde, in *Lost in London*. Following this a six months' engagement as lead with George Rignold at Sydney, a year's starring lead with Bland Holt, a special three months with Brough and Boucicault, and a return to Bland Holt for two years as starring lead, creating in Australia Astrea, *Trumpet Call*; Marie Delaney, *Sailor's Knot*; Mary Lonsdale, *Woman's Revenge*; Rose Woodmere, *The Prodigal Daughter*, &c. Also a short season with Arthur Garner at Melbourne as Cecile Dawson (*Friends*), and at Sydney Jane (*Jane*) and Mrs Horton (*Dr Bill*) In 1895, having returned to England, Miss Blande became a member of C. W. Garthorne's company, playing Mrs Kendal's parts in *Impulse* and *The Queen's Shilling*, and Mrs Blythe, in *The Colonel*. Her services were then secured by Maurice Bandmann, with whom she starred for twenty weeks in the part written for Miss Eastlake, Madame Laroche (*Egyptian Idol*). Then followed a season at Terry's Theatre, under James Willard's management, and leading lady in J. M. Mortimer's *My Artful Valet*. Subsequently came an engagement with Edward Russell to play Lady Sybil in the Shaftesbury Theatre version of *The Sorrows of Satan*; a tour as the Panther, *In Sight of St. Paul's*, with Albert Gilmer, and a special fourteen weeks with A. B. Tapping as Mrs Rennick (*New Boy*). Miss Blande next joined Milton Bode to play Marcel Rigadout, the leading female rôle in *Woman and Wine*, which character she sustained for four years. Between seasons she appeared as Josephine in *A Royal Divorce* (Mr W. W. Kelly's company) playing this part for sixteen weeks. Following *Woman and Wine* came an engagement with Walter Melville to star as "the Worst Woman in London." This part Miss Blande played for sixty-two weeks, followed by a twenty weeks' engagement as Dora Grey, *Her Second Time on Earth*, with the same management. Then came a special three weeks with Lingford Carson to create the leading rôle in *A Modern Adventuress*. Miss Maud Hildyard then engaged Miss Blande to take up her part, Wanda Lubinoff, *A Beautiful Fiend*, for the spring tour just finished. Miss Blande intends now taking a well-earned holiday, making her reappearance on Aug. 1, being re-engaged by Milton Bode for Marcel, in *Woman and Wine*. Our picture is from a photograph just taken by Draycott, Limited, and shows Miss Blande as a "Beautiful Fiend." It is worthy of note that during the whole of her experience Miss Blande has never had occasion to call upon the services of her understudy, nor has anyone ever played her part while her name has figured in the bill.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

NEW YORK, JUNE 8.—Not including the vaudeville houses, only five theatres remain open, and of these all but one have musical plays, the exception being Richard Harding Davis's farce, *The Dictator*, which is in its third month and still doing well at the Criterion. *Piff, Paff, Pouf*, aptly called "a musical cocktail," has grown in popularity week by week at the Casino, the engagement of Thomas Q. Seabrooke, who sings "Cordelia Malone" in his own inimitable way, being largely responsible for this. A handsomely costumed and well-drilled chorus goes through some pretty and novel evolutions whilst Mr Seabrooke chants this tuneful lay, making it a very attractive feature. Eddie Foy's song, "The ghost that never walked" is another happy blend of melody and comedy, and the "radium dance," executed by the sprightly and graceful English Pony Ballet, wins a storm of applause nightly. De Wolf Hopper is still cutting his merry capers in *Wang* at the Lyric, and is talking of taking the piece to London by and by. *The Yankee Consul*, with Raymond Hitchcock, has had a four months' run at the Broadway, but the end is not yet. At the New York Theatre, *The Southerners*, Mr George Lederer's latest, to which new features are constantly being added, shows all the familiar symptoms of long-enduring prosperity. Mr Lederer tells me that he intends to make another descent on London with this "musical study in black and white" next September, and in this connection it may be mentioned that Will Marion Cook, who composed the music of *In Dahomey*, did likewise for *The Southerners*.

THE AERIAL GARDENS, constructed and conducted by Klaw and Erlanger on the roof of their New Amsterdam Theatre, for the special benefit of summer amusement seekers, were opened last Monday with an attractive programme, the principal offering being a musical farce, called *A Little of Everything*, by John J. M'Nally. Fay Templeton and Peter F. Dailey, prime favourites both, appeared in this, and delighted a goodly gathering, the two elevators that carried the audience skywards being taxed to their capacity throughout the evening. The Aerial Gardens comprise a theatre which will seat 1,200 people, and a quaint Dutch garden. With an altitude of 120ft., this is said to be the loftiest amusement resort of its kind in New York.

OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN'S Paradise Garden on top of the Victoria Theatre, was opened on the same evening. The *pièce de résistance* was called *Parsifalia*, the author being the versatile gentleman just mentioned. He called it a "musical parsiflage," and announced that it was in no sense a burlesque on the Wagner opera, but a skit on the trials and difficulties encountered by Herr Conried when he set about producing *Parsifal* in New York against the wishes of Frau Wagner. For his temerity Conried is punished by the Goddess Musica. He is thrown into a trance by the wrathful Muse, and all sorts of obstacles in human shape confront him. The cast included Emma Carns, Eleanor Falk, and several other favourites. There were a ballet and several vaudeville numbers, all of which were enjoyed by a large audience.

THE new theatre built by Oscar Hammerstein in West Forty-second-street has been leased by the firm of Hamlin, Mitchell, and Fields, and is to be known as the Lew Fields Theatre. The entertainments to be given there will resemble those which Weber and Fields gave for a number of years at their music hall, but it is announced that they will be "of a higher class and more coherent." Mr Julian Mitchell will stage the productions, and an "all-star" cast will appear in them. The new theatre will be opened in September.

MR EDWARD MARRIS' company in *The Dandy Doctor* did an excellent week's business last week at the Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne. A graceful and real cake-walk given by Miss Holden and Mr Ben Rowe and the smart dances contributed by the Misses Allen, Gordon, and Evelyn were items which proved especially popular.

PRESENTATION.—There was a crowded and fashionable assembly in the Liverpool Shakespeare Theatre on the 16th inst., when Mr John Gaffney, the acting-manager and secretary, took his annual benefit. On behalf of the committee of the Theatrical Gala, for which Mr Gaffney had laboured since its formation, a gold match box and a purse were presented to him.

'OFF THE RANK."

A Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Laurence Sterner, Produced at the Gaiety Theatre, Douglas, Isle of Man, on Thursday, June 16.

Mr Quayle	Mr GEORGE P. ASCOT
Philip Cathcart	Mr C. B VAUGHAN
Theodore Ponjab	Mr FRED FOWLER
Joe Higgins	Mr BERTIE RALLAND
Thompson	Mr LANGFORD REID
Watty Walker	Mr WALTER SEALBY
Lady Florence Harborough	Miss JULIE ST GEORGE
Cynthia Ponjab	Miss MABEL SEALBY
Mrs Crop	Miss ADA MARIUS
Nellie	Miss ADELINE WOOD
Cherry Smart	Miss MINNIE WALSH
Edna	Miss CHRISSIE RALLAND

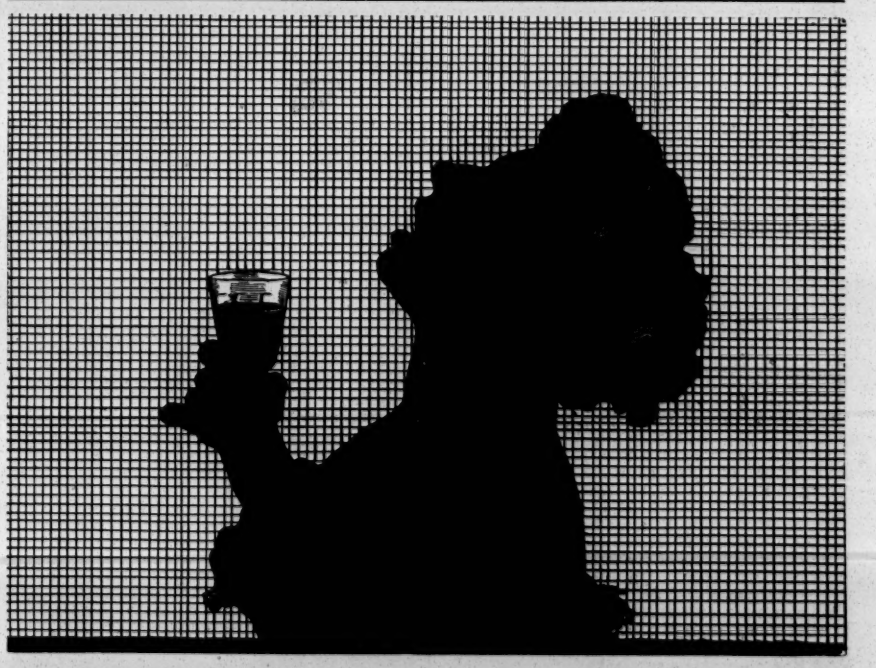
(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Messrs Herbert Ralland and Walter Sealby's company produced Mr Lawrence Sterner's three-act farcical comedy entitled *Off the Rank* for the first time on any stage at the Gaiety Theatre, Douglas, on the 16th inst. The play and the players achieved an instantaneous success. The laughter was loud and appreciative, and at the end of each act there were loud recalls, and the final curtain fell to overwhelming applause. The author has got hold of an original and diverting idea; he has developed it with adroit dramatic craftsmanship; and has strengthened it with amusing episodes and incidents which naturally enhance the value of the embrolio and accentuate the quaintness of his characterisation.

Philip Cathcart, ward of Mr Quayle, is on the point of departure to Jamaica to take up a Civil Service appointment; for this it is necessary for him to be a married man. He is engaged to Edna, daughter of Lady Harborough. When the curtain rises it is 7·0 a.m., Philip has been having a final spree. His boots are one the table, his keys are on the doorstep, and the cabby, Watty Walker, is asleep on the hearthrug with a lady's hat on instead of his own. They have a very vague idea of where they have been, and are equally hazy as to what they have done. One thing they do know—they had had a scrimmage, and the overcoats in their possession do not belong to them. The morning paper relates how an Anglo-Indian recently arrived in London has been assaulted and robbed, and in the cabby's overcoat there is found £1,000 in banknotes. The police are on their track, with the aid of the housekeeper, Mrs Crop, and Edna. Watty Walker is introduced as Mr Theodore Ponjab, an old friend of Mr Quayle's, who is expected for the wedding. As Ponjab the cabman makes love to Lady Harborough and Mrs Crop, kisses Edna, and generally dominates the scene. But Nemesis is on their trail. Mrs Ponjab turns up, her husband is expected, and the only way out of the difficulty is for the cabman to disguise himself as a French milliner with an Irish accent. But all things end happily in comedy. Philip and his accomplice have assaulted no one. They have even pluckily rescued Mr Ponjab when set upon by Hooligans. So the marriage is not postponed, and Watty Walker, from off the rank, pairs off with Mrs Crop. This is a mere outline of the plot, which is full of clever business and funny complications, such as the mock quarrel between Edna and Philip, so that the marriage can be postponed until the mystery of the banknotes in the overcoat is cleared up. The real quarrel occurs when a Covent-garden barmaid turns up to blackmail Philip, and the scene is interrupted by Edna.

The piece is admirably acted. The cabman of Mr Walter Sealby is a real contribution to up-to-date comedy. His make-up was excellent. The business he introduced was always helpful to the lines and the general scheme of the play. While Mr Sealby was on the stage the laughter never flagged, and it was real laughter legitimately earned. It was one of the cleverest comedy creations seen in the Isle of Man for many years. Mr C. B. Vaughan played Philip Cathcart with sincerity. There was a convincing note in his realisation of the possible results of his night's frolic, and this helped the performance. Mr George P. Ascott had not much to do as Mr Quayle, but he did that little very well. Mr Fred Fowler was also excellent as Theodore Ponjab. His make-up showed sense of characterisation, and he made his points with ease. Mr Bertie Ralland contributed a clever little sketch as Joe Higgins, and Mr Langford Reed was well suited as Thompson, a police constable. The Edna of Miss Chrissie Ralland was a delightful creation. She suggested the charming English girl of good family, she spoke her lines with both delicacy and emphasis, and invested all her scenes with interest. The Mrs Crop of Miss Ada Marius was saturated with a Dickensian humour, but, then, Miss Marius is a very clever artiste. She knows the stage, and in this calibre of performance her co-operation is most valuable. Miss Julie St. George played Lady Harborough with infinite vivacity, and evoked peals of laughter. A small character part, Cherry Smart, the Covent-garden barmaid, was admirably created by Miss Minnie Walsh. It is a tiny rôle, but much depends upon it, and Miss Walsh scored immensely. Miss Mabel Sealby added distinction to Cynthia Ponjab. She carried many of the scenes on her shoulders, and Miss Adeline Wood made a smart chambermaid. The piece had been capitally rehearsed, and every credit is due to Mr Walter Sealby for his excellent production. The general verdict on *Off the Rank* was that it was a really clever and entertaining play, and ought to have a long and prosperous career.

ON Monday next the shareholders' meeting of the Paris Athénée will be held, when M. Abel Deval intends to propose to raise the capital of the company from £16,000 to £36 000. M. Deval is a go-ahead gentleman, but whether the shareholders will follow him in his career remains yet to be seen.



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LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

DUKE OF YORK'S.

On Saturday, June 18, Revival by Mr Forbes-Robertson, of Mrs Madeleine Lucette Ryley's Play, in Four Acts, entitled
"MICE AND MEN."

Mark Embury	Mr FORBES-ROBERTSON
Roger Goodlake	Mr GEORGE SUMNER
Captain George Lovell	Mr CHARLES CHERRY
Sir Harry Trimblestone	Mr LEON QUARTERMAINE
Kit Barniger	Mr J. H. RYLEY
Peter	Mr FARREN
Beadle	Mr ERNEST COSHAM
Joanna Goodlake	Miss ALICE DE WINTON
Mrs Deborah	Miss MARY RORKE
Matron	Miss MINNIE GRIFFIN
Molly	Miss EDITH FENCHESTER
Peggy	Miss GERTRUDE ELLIOTT

The Edge of the Storm has failed to attract, but Mr Forbes-Robertson's richly endowed répertoire contains that pretty play of sentiment, *Mice and Men*, and the freshness, the delicacy, and charm of it should once more be fruitful of large and delighted audiences. Mrs Ryley's play formed, it will be remembered, the winter attraction of Mr Forbes Robertson's season at the Lyric Theatre being produced there on Jan. 27, 1902; and its revival at the Duke of York's on Saturday evening again revealed Mr and Mrs Forbes-Robertson (Miss Gertrude Elliott) at their very best in the interpretation of the two chief characters. It is a very quaint scheme of Mark Embury, philosopher and philanthropist, when he chooses Peggy from the Foundling Hospital to train her with a view to matrimony. Cupid has a knack, however, of playing fantastic tricks with man and maid; and, as one would expect, Peggy finds a husband for herself, the old *doctrinaire* learning without much difficulty that the wisdom and experience and calm penetration of middle-age cannot be fitly mated to the wayward impulsiveness of youth. Mr Forbes-Robertson's Mark Embury is instinct with pleasant egotism, and the devotion of the man to his ideal faithfully peeps out even in Mark's severest moods towards his protegée. One feels that had the fates been kinder to him, Peggy would have found a most indulgent husband—a partner for life, indeed, whose tender solicitude must have eventually won her complete devotion. In the third act the actor's deeply intense and powerfully restrained emotion still exercises its wonted power, and the departure of Mark from the pretty cottage in Hampstead strikes a deeply emotional chord that keeps the audience in their seats until after the fall of the curtain. On Saturday Mr Forbes-Robertson completely magnetised his hearers. Miss Gertrude Elliott's Little Britain has lost nothing of its depth, quaintness, or humour. There is a droll playfulness about it in the earlier scenes that brings out most effectively the deeper shading of pathos in the later. The womanly sweetness of the matured Peggy, full of filial affection, is also a most delightful feature of a character that could not be better played. Mr Charles Cherry, who was the original Captain Bastling in *The Gay Lord Quex*, plays Mr Ben Webster's part—that of Captain George Lovell, and makes an excellent impression. Recently Mr Cherry has been deputising for Mr Gerald Du Maurier at Wyndham's, and he has evidently made great strides as an actor during his absence in America. He is a gallant and debonair young soldier, and supplies every justification in his appearance and manner for the fascination exercised by the captain over Pegg. He gives much emphasis to spirited lines, and realises to the full the manliness and passion of the part. Mr George Sumner succeeds Mr Luigi Lablache as Roger Goodlake, and gives effect to the easy good nature of that character. Miss Alice De Winton as Joanna Goodlake is most attractive as that foolish and frivolous schemer; Mr J. R. Ryley repeats his clever character sketch of Kit Barniger, the fiddler; Mr Farren is responsible for a capital bit of comedy acting as Peter; the beadle of Mr Ernest Cosham quite realises the fussiness and pomposity of such a character; and Mr Leon Quartermaine's Sir Harry Trimblestone is an adequate rendering of a small part. Miss Mary Rorke makes a gracious figure of Deborah, the housekeeper, the pardonable pride of the dear old lady in her charge and her little touches of vanity being cleverly depicted. Miss Minnie Griffen's matron is a neat little character sketch, and Miss Edith Fenchester drolly realises the gawky simplicity of Molly. The panorama of Hampstead is an admirable bit of brushwork by Mr W. Hemsley; and the masquerade ball costumes are very effective.

THE GRAND.

On Monday, June 20,
Revival of Dion Boucicault's Irish Drama, entitled
"THE COLLEEN BAWN."

Mr George Davey, the spirited proprietor of "Islington's own theayter," and Mr Oswald Brand are continuing their policy of reviving the melodramatic masterpieces of the Victorian era, and in such a comprehensive scheme of theatrical entertainment a place must naturally be found for Boucicault's interesting piece, *The Colleen Bawn*, produced at the Adelphi on Sept. 10, 1860, with the author and his wife in the parts of Myles-na-Coppaleen and Eily O'Connor. The play is based on Gerald Griffin's "The Collegians," of which novel versions had been given some twenty-five years previously at several of the minor theatres. At the time of its production the effect of the drowning and the rescue in the water-cave was considered the most novel and ingenious achievement in the way of scenic illusion that had been seen for a considerable period; but it must be remembered that in the sixties what is termed the tank drama was then unknown. The resources of the Grand are quite equal to mounting this historic scene in a manner that is worthy of the best theatrical traditions. The curtain rises on a picturesque series of rocks with a real waterfall in the distance, and the attempted drowning of the heroine by Danny Mann and the rescue by Myles cause much intense excitement. Another fine set is the illuminated hall and gardens in Castle Chute, painted by Ryan. Every care and attention to detail marks the revival, and Islingtonians are sure to be fascinated by the charming sentiment and racy humour of what is considered by some to be the best Irish drama ever written. The stock company engaged to interpret Boucicaultian character has no special Irish proclivities, but there is much earnest effort among its members to realise the Milesian atmosphere of the piece. Hardress Cregan must always be considered a weak-kneed hero; but the romantic tenderness of the part is well brought out by Mr Leonard Yorke. Light-hearted gaiety for the most part characterises Miss Helen Bancroft's reading of Anne Chute. The broad spirit of raillery possesses the actress, who exhibits much command of comedy, but at the same time never loses sight of the affectionate and kindly nature of the heiress. Miss Kate Brand in the character of Eily realises its simplicity, and gracefully emphasises the devoted love of the girl. Miss Brand sounds a deep note of distress in the cave scene, and excites much sympathy. Miss Mary Hardacre's experience enables her to sustain with ease and effectiveness the rôle of Mrs Cregan. Mr Arthur Estcourt is sufficiently malevolent as the unscrupulous and spiteful Corrigan, and a powerful rendering of the rôle of Danny Mann is furnished by Mr Ivan Berlyn who pictures the remorse of the dying man with considerable skill. Mr Hal Collier, a most praiseworthy Myles-na-Coppaleen, is briskly vivacious and insinuatingly droll. His scene with Anne Chute is full of sly fun. Mr Fred F. Allen makes a sympathetic figure of Father Tom; Miss Nellie Gilmore is an affectionate Sheelah; and Mr Cecil Klein is an amusing Kyrle Daly. Smaller parts are adequately presented by Miss Lefton, Miss Wood, Mr J. G. Jelly, and Mr P. James. In the illuminated hall and garden in Castle Chute Mr Pat Doherty, a most acceptable Hibernian comedian, who is known to his legion of friends as the Irish M.P., sings a couple of excellent songs, and dances with a neatness of style that is rare nowadays. The evening's entertainment opens with the Biograph (from the Palace Theatre), which shows an excellent series of up-to-date films, and an additional attraction each evening is the concertina playing of the Royal Zerbinis.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, June 20, the Drama, by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE CHRISTIAN."

Mr Wentworth Croke's company is playing *The Christian* here this week to very appreciative audiences. The play is staged in a highly creditable manner, and everything that careful stage-management can do to ensure the success of the piece has been done, making the production one of great interest, and the interpretation secured is deserving of the highest of praise. Great credit is due to Miss Grace Chalmers for her exceptionally fine portrayal of Glory Quayle. The difficulties of this part are of more than ordinary character, but she skilfully overcomes them and achieves a conspicuous success, her reading of the rôle frequently drawing forth well-earned applause. First of all we see her as the innocent girl, later as the worldly woman, and, through all, struggling between the two, between vice and virtue, and contrasting with great skill the difference in moods in the moments of her trials and temptations. We must bestow praise upon Mr Harry Scott for his masterly impersonation of John Storm. His reading is marked with excellent judgment and taste, and his many scenes with Glory Quayle are characterised by intense feeling. The part is a more than usually arduous one, and brings into play many different emotions. Mr Scott is fully able to meet every demand made on him during the evening, and acts with an earnestness which soon finds favour with his admirers in front. Mr Charles Hill does well as Parson Quayle, whilst Mr Sidney Radcliffe supplies a commendable performance as Father Lamplugh. The part of Archdeacon Wealthy has a capable representative in Mr Charles E. Dering, and Mr Oswald Marshall is a satisfactory Mr Lorrimer. Mr Charles B. Bedells gives due prominence to the rôle of Lord Robert Ure, his acting showing great ability. Horatio Drake is capitally played by Mr Jackson Wilcox. In the last act his playing reaches a high standard of excellence, and throughout is deserving of commendation. Brother Paul is ably delineated by Mr Wilfred Blumberg, who does not fail to make use of all the opportunities which the part affords. Miss Vashti Wellborne as Polly Love infuses a great deal of womanly tenderness into her part, and plays with much pathos and feeling; and Miss Clara Nicholls is exceedingly good as the kind-hearted Mrs Callender. The minor characters are adequately filled by other members of the company, and the scenic effects are particularly good.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, June 20,
the American Drama, by Joseph Arthur, entitled
"THE STILL ALARM."

The Pavilion was well filled on Monday, the attraction being Messrs Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company, in *The Still Alarm*, which was received with every sign of satisfaction. In the rôle of Jack Manley Mr Matthew H. Glenville shows dramatic ability of a high order, and his vigorous impersonation of the hero is most successful. Mr Fred Osmond gives a well-studied portrayal of the drunken and broken-down reprobate Doc Wilber, and supplies a fund of quiet humour which is much appreciated. As Willie Manley Mr Tom Beasley is responsible for some good work, which he does in an easy and natural style, while John Bird is ably represented by Mr Chas. H. Lester, who gives a powerful rendering of the part, and proves himself an effective artist. Mr Lewis Gordon acts with judgment as Franklyn Fordham, and Joe Jones in the hands of Mr Robert Lord is an amusing character. Miss Ruth King gives a charming and refined performance of the self-sacrificing Elinore Fordham, and plays throughout with force and feeling. Miss Mabel Veriton makes a typical Mrs Manley, and her sympathetic efforts are met with full recognition. The singing and dancing of Miss Hettie Zillwood as the vivacious Carrie Wilber are much admired, the audience being greatly pleased with her two songs. Mr Arthur Downes is successful as Jenkins, whilst the remaining parts are in the capable hands of Messrs Henry Smith, George Owens, W. Edward, E. Tudor, H. Johnstone, G. Frances, T. Varney, and Master Walter Turner. The representation of the interior of the Central Fire Station, New York City, is an excellent setting, in which the performance of the well-trained horses deserves special mention, and lends much reality to this capitally mounted scene. Some tuneful glees, delivered by the Lyric Comedy Four, are enthusiastically received.

THE SURREY.

On Monday, June 20, the Drama, in Four Acts,
by Arthur Shirley and George Conquest, entitled
"THE LONDON FIREMAN."

Since its production here in October, 1902, this well constructed and highly interesting drama has vastly improved, several superfluous parts having been cut out. Those clever dramatists, Messrs Arthur Shirley and George Conquest, could not have hit upon a more popular theme than the life story of a London fireman, and the Surrey patrons follow with keen interest the varying fortunes of the brave and noble young fireman, Hal Curtis, and his sweet wife, Ida. As the Viscount Mr Frank E. Petley ably sustains his original creation. In the dual parts of Colonel Fleming and Hal Curtis Mr Hodgson Taylor makes a typical London fireman, looking manly and handsome in his smart uniform, and acting his part with a quiet earnestness and unaffected ease that make him a warm favourite with the audience. Miss Gertrude Price imbues the part of his wife, Ida, with a plaintive grace and delightful sincerity all her own, and in her passages with the Viscount her artistic efforts reach to a high level of excellence. As the warm-hearted Countess Fleming Miss Violet Temple invests the character with all the dignity of her position and the maternal tenderness of a true English lady. Mr Edward L. Garside as the disreputable "Ratty" delineates the character with that sense of realism that fascinates even while it repels. As Abel Fortnum, the blind father of Ida, Mr Chas. Olington cleverly imitates all the peculiar actions of one afflicted with loss of sight; Mr Percy Maitland in his original part of Joe Bluener leaves a strong impression. As Grace Curtis Miss Adeline Raby makes a distinct hit in her scene with a brutal son, and imparts deep feeling into the part. Mr Frank Hertie handles the rôle of Dr. Gerrard effectively and well; as Captain Langton, the Chief of the Fire Brigade, Mr Joe Rookley is stalwart and spirited; as the drunken German, Gurglewash, Mr Charles Mont gives a remarkably clever character sketch; Mr Fred Monney makes a typical police inspector; Mr T. W. Stead is good as the butler, Parkin; Messrs Edward Wishaw and Alfred Maxwell as firemen, Hartleigh and Grimshaw, do well. On broadly comic lines Mr J. F. Knowles as Nixey Stinger, an aspiring handcuff king, and Miss Nellie Garside as Polly Bramble are always in the picture; the former with a fund of genuine humour, and the latter with a constant supply of Salvation Army airs and topsy-turvy axioms, which are most amusing. Many of the scenes are highly exciting and sensational, and the last scene of a London Brigade Station calls forth warm approbation.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, June 20,
"OUR BOYS."

An interesting revival is being given here this week of Mr H. J. Byron's world-renowned comedy, *Our Boys*. The management has organised a very capable company, and an excellent representation is the result. In the part of Perkyn Middlewick Mr Charles Goold is eminently satisfactory. He excites the risibility of the audience to the fullest extent, and his efforts meet with well-merited applause. Mr Charles Langley is responsible for the rôle of Sir Geoffrey Champneys, and his polished and aristocratic impersonation is thoroughly appreciated. Well liked is Mr Ernest E. Norris in the character Talbot Champneys. He proves himself to be an actor of real resource. Mr Jo Monkhouse gives a vigorous and manly rendering of Charles Middlewick, and the rôle of Kempster has every care in the hands of Mr Stanley Philson. Mr Harley West is effective as Noddles. As Violet Melrose Miss Edith Cuthbert is charming; and a fascinating Mary Melrose is Miss Ethel Rozale. Miss Emily Dowton is excellent as Aunt Clarissa; and as the lodging house slavey Miss Celia Gordon is well placed. The play is nicely mounted and evokes unequivocal approval.

GRAND THEATRE, FULHAM.

On Monday, June 20,
"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."

On Monday the third of the series of Melville melodramas was presented, entitled *A Disgrace to Her Sex*, and in many respects it proved to be the best of the bunch. It is more a play of intrigue as opposed to lurid happenings, and the comedy interest is bright and well sustained. This is Mr Walter Melville's star company, and includes such well-known names as Misses Olga Audré and Dorothy Drake and Messrs Algernon Syms, Julian Cross, and Harry Brayne. Miss Olga Audré acts with charm and distinction as the adventuress Hilda Valley, who married not wisely, but too many at a time, and who acts well up to her sobriquet of "a disgrace to her sex" throughout three acts and a half, and then seeks repentance and determines to "woo the angel Virtue" in the future in the closing scene of the fourth act. Hers is a refined, clever, and well-conceived rendition of the part. Miss Dorothy Drake contributes a pleasing embodiment of the rôle of Mabel Valley, the illegitimate child of the adventuress, and Miss Kate Hallam acts with verve and sincerity in the scene where Mildred Carrington reproaches her supposedly unfaithful lover. Miss Madge Yates lets herself go in the part of Bella Mugg, the girl who fancied the dog-fancier. Mr Julian Cross is vastly diverting as the rascally, blackmailing Frenchman, Jules Delarnet, whom the programme describes as "the grub that enters the fruit," and, to use his own words, he is "most beautiful" as an exponent of pettifogging villainy and cowardice. Mr Algernon Syms gives a manly, workmanlike interpretation of the part of old David Carrington, who comes to the rescue of his old flame, Hilda, alias Stella, at a critical moment in her career.

A fallen woman looks far for a friend,
Her present is gay, but where is her end.

quotes Mr Melville; but in this case he answers the conundrum very satisfactorily for the frail fair one, as she appears to be in good hands under the kindly auspices of the rich Mr Carrington. The part of Jack Dawes, a young gentleman whose career was temporarily blighted by an early marriage with "the disgrace to her sex," is quite satisfactorily rendered by Mr Cecil A. Melton, and Mr Cyril Vernon gives a praiseworthy performance as Arnold Travers, a city man, and another youthful victim of the matrimonial cormorant, Stella Neale. Mr Harry Brayne as Barnaby Mugg, a dog fancier, contributes a characteristic and truly comical impersonation. His light touch and deft manipulation of comic material and droll situations prevent the comedy scenes ever dragging while he is on the stage, and he keeps the ball of fun rolling naturally and without apparent effort. Mr Julian Bainbridge as Dexter, of Scotland-yard; Miss Hettie Cornwallis, a charming Mrs M'Ginty; and other small parts are adequately represented. The scenery, especially the Royal Court Hotel, is everything that could be desired.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 20, the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"ALONE IN CHINA."

ENGLISH CHARACTERS IN PLAY.	
Sir Reginald Haversham	Mr CLIFFORD GORDON
Charles Haversham	Mr ST. JOHN-BEECHER
Captain Harold Haldane	Mr JUAN D'ALBERTI
Bill Stunt	Mr CHARLES NINIAN
Freddy Haversham	Little JOSIE LOVE
Mother Bebb	Miss MARA COLLINGS
Kate Belton	Miss ADA CLARK
Adele Crichton	Miss PATEY TROUNSELL
CELESTIALS.	
Wang-Hai	Mr EDWIN WALTON
Chen-Foo	Mr R. DUNCAN-BELL
Chin-Chin	Mr EDWIN CLARKE
Lai-Tai	Miss DOROTHY NORMANDALE

The name of the author of *Alone in China*—which was played for the first time at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, on June 13—is not given on the programme, but he has evidently a nice appreciation of the requirements of a popular audience, and judging by the reception of his play at Brixton on Monday it should achieve considerable success in the provinces and at those outlying theatres where sensational melodrama is the favourite fare. The action mainly takes place in China, where many striking and effective scenes are shown, but we are introduced to the hero, Charles Haversham, and his father, Sir Reginald, a missionary, at Haversham Hall, Devonshire. Here also we meet the villainous Captain Harold Haldane, captain of H.M.S. Spitfire, and nephew of Sir Reginald. Having designs on the old man's wealth, he is anxious to get all his relatives out of way, and suggests that Haversham and his little boy, Freddy, shall sail with him on the Spitfire, soon departing for China. Bill Stunt, boatswain of that vessel, with no great affection for his captain, reveals the true nature of Haldane to Haversham and his father, and implores them to have a care for their safety. Kate Belton, employed at the village post-office, comes on the scene, and in conversation with Haversham tells him of her uneasiness concerning various defalcations thereat. Haversham, who is a widower, attracted by the lovable nature of Kate, asks her to undertake the charge of his boy, but she requires time to consider his offer, which is overheard by Captain Haldane, who himself has an affection for her, in spite of his professed devotion to Adele Crichton, an adventuress, the real thief at the post-office. The unscrupulous pair of course fix the robbery on Kate, and ere the curtain falls on the first act Haldane strangles his uncle, Sir Reginald, and accuses Haversham of the crime, the boatswain Stunt, however, coming on the scene and denouncing the real murderer. The second act opens at the Port of Shanghai, where Stunt is busy flirting with a little Chinee laundry maiden Lai-Tai. Her mistress is Mother Bebb, aunt of the adventuress, Adele, who is in the power of Wang-Hai, Mandarin Chief of the Boxers. Adele's accomplice, Haldane, is also here, as are the other principals, including Kate, now the wife of Charles Haversham, and his little son Freddy. The boy is left in charge of Chin-Chin, a Chinese convert, and at the instigation of Haldane the pair are imprisoned in an opium den, the meeting place of the Boxers, and tortured. Adele and Haldane have agreed to steal the jewels which ornament the idols of the Temple of Kwan-Tai, but they are disturbed by the appearance of Kate. The guilt is of course thrust upon her, and speedy destruction at the hands of the Boxers threatens the whole party, when Lai-Tai appears with a body of bluejackets, and they are saved. In the last act another attempt is made to kidnap the boy by Wang-Hai, who has grown tired of Adele, and is determined to possess Kate, and the mission station is fired during service, and ere the curtain finally falls with the prospect of happiness for Haversham and his long-suffering wife and boy, Adele, who has been partially strangled by Haldane, dies penitent. It will be seen that there is an abundance of exciting and effective situations, and the many patriotic speeches with which the piece is studded were loudly applauded on Monday evening, the audience also especially appreciating the novel tableau at the end of the third act. The play, for the production of which Mr Henry Johnson was responsible, was admirably represented, a convincing and easy delineation of the important part of the adventuress, Adele, being contributed by Miss Patey Trounsell, whose portrayal was throughout most commendable. A lovable and sympathetic enactment of Kate Belton was given by Miss Ada Clark, a somewhat monotonous style of delivering her lines marring an otherwise excellent impersonation; and a praiseworthy and clever portrait of the bibulous Mother Bebb was that drawn by Miss Mara Collings. Little Josie Love capably undertook the part of the boy, Freddy, and a charmingly vivacious and humorous little sketch of Lai-Tai was submitted by Miss Dorothy Normandale. Mr St. John Beecher made a manly and earnest missionary, Charles Haversham; the despicable nature of Captain Harold Haldane was admirably indicated by Mr Juan D'Alberti; and Mr Clifford Gordon played Sir Reginald in an easy and gentlemanly manner. The humorous and thankful rôle of Bill Blunt was done every justice to by Mr Charles Ninian, a comedian who quickly became a great favourite with the house, and who contributed a really funny and well-studied enactment; Chin-Chin, the Chinese convert, was capitally and amusingly undertaken by Mr Edwin Clarke; and a most effective and finished piece of acting was the Wang-Hai of Mr Edwin Walton.

SHAKESPEARE, CLAPHAM-JUNCTION.

On Monday, June 20, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"MOROCCO BOUND."

This popular musical comedy, played by Mr Penrhyn Forster's company, has been a pleasant diversion here this week. Pretty maidens, smart dresses, and elaborate scenery help to make it attractive. Miss Florence Trevellon, with her beautiful voice, adds distinction to the part of Comtesse De Blaque, and receives numerous encores. Mr Robert White, jun., is humorous in a delightfully dry way as Spoofah Bey, and scores with his songs. Miss Hilda Corelli as Maud Sportington is one of the bright particular stars of the production; she is a very agile and graceful dancer, and wins warn applause, especially in a coon dance in the second act. Miss Edith Walker as Ethel Sportington sings gracefully and deserves every praise, and Miss Isobel Vernon as Lady Walkover makes the most of her chance in a song in the second act, and earns vigorous encores. Mr Herbert Cottesmore with his fine voice and presence displays distinction in the rôle of Sid Fakah, the Grand Vizier. Mr T. E. Conover works hard in the part of Squire Higgins, Mr Walter Balfour deserves praise for his rendering of Vivian Higgins, and his singing of "England Awake" is redemanded. Mr Grahame Herington, who is the director of this production, undertakes the part of Lord Percy Pimpleton, the humour of which he duly elaborates; and Mr Bruce Lindley is noticeable as Josiah Higgins, the horse-dealer. The chorus works hard, and the piece goes with spirit.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 20, the Sensational Melodrama,
by F. A. Scudamore, entitled
"BECAUSE I LOVE YOU."

Mr Frank Stephens and company are giving realistic representations of Mr F. A. Scudamore's sensational melodrama entitled *Because I Love You*, at the Dalston Theatre this week. Although the play is full of incidents that might be expected to strike a certain amount of terror into the hearts of most susceptible people, it seems to have a wonderful grip of the general public; in fact, during its representation at the Dalston Theatre the expressions of praise have been unstinted. It must be admitted that a large amount of the success attained is due to Mr Frank Stephens's remarkably clever representation of the part of Nemo, the freak of nature known as "The Vulture." In sustaining this remarkable part Mr Stephens contrives here and there to relieve the animalised side of the character with touches of tenderness which cause the audience to feel involuntary sympathy with Nemo, who is half man, half vulture. Mr Howard L. Tracey as Professor Predate throws a large amount of detail into the part. Mr Alfred Mayne as Dr. Ambrose (of Harley-street) looks a typical medical man. Miss Madge North as Norina Chandos, known in service as "Nelly Bly," becomes quite a favourite with the audience, and Miss Florence Trevoir gives an effective rendering of the character of Lady Ursula Milfoil. Miss Adeleine Montague is a decided success as Mrs Puplett, and Mr Leonard Maitland as Eddie Puplett is funny as "his mother's joy." Other prominent characters in the piece are sustained by Mr Richard A. Greene as Captain Stirling, V.C., and Mr Walter Raynham as Christopher Chandos (a retired merchant). The cast also includes Mr Herbert Boyle, Mr Tom H. Court, Mr C. V. Wright, Mr J. Byron, Miss Annie Megeon, and Miss Ellen Teesdale.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, June 20, the Sporting Farce, in Three Acts,
by George Rollit, entitled
"THE MONEY MAKERS."

The original company from the Royalty Theatre opened here on Monday in the amusing sporting farce entitled *The Money Makers*. Miss Lettice Fairfax as Mabel and Miss Muriel Ashwynne as Dot were both excellent, and Mr Sydney Brough as Captain Archie Fitzgerald was admirable. The part of Bella was finely played by Miss Claire Romaine; Miss Mary Griffiths as Mrs Bannerman was most amusing; and Mr Clarence Blackiston easily and effectively enacted Charlie Clifton. The numerous minor parts were without exception capably filled, and among these Mr Mark Kinghorne's performance of the part of Matthew M'Dougall is worthy of special praise.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, June 20, the Farcical Comedy,
entitled
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."

Mr Eugene Stafford's company is paying a farewell visit this week with that diverting farcical comedy, *The Private Secretary*. The adventures of the Rev. Robert Spalding are always the cause of endless amusement, and this extremely diverting play never went better than it did on Monday evening, when it caused much hilarity. To Mr Geoffrey Guise falls the task of impersonating the Rev. Robert Spalding, and he gives a capital rendering of the part; his humour is never forced, and he hits off the eccentricities of the young curate to a nicety. Another diverting character is that of Mr Cattermole as played by Mr W. Hargreaves, whose portrayal of the irascible old gentleman is extremely effective, and adds greatly to the gaiety of the piece. Harry Marsland and Douglas Cattermole are well played by Messrs V. Gilbert and A. Austin Leigh respectively. Mr Raymond Chester is well placed as Mr Marsland, while a clever sketch of the Bond-street tailor who desires to mix with society comes from Mr Wilfrid Compton. Miss Dora Gray makes an altogether charming Edith Marsland, and Eva Webster is prettily embodied by Miss Florence Tressilian. Mrs Alfred Davis is a satisfactory Miss Ashford, and Miss Emmie O'Reilly is acceptable as Mrs Stead. The comedy is preceded by Buckstone's *Good for Nothing*, in which Miss Dora Gray is a capital Nan.

THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, June 20, the Play, by Laurence Irving,
entitled
"RICHARD LOVELACE."

This play, produced for the first time in London last week at Kennington, and now transferred to Hammersmith, possesses much attractiveness, and will thoroughly interest all admirers of the poet-soldier whose love romance is so effectively told by Mr Laurence Irving. In the picturesque character of Richard Lovelace Mr Laurence Irving acts in very brave fashion, and his elocutionary powers are now of great service. Colonel Martin Hawley finds an admirable representative in Mr James Hearn, who acts with splendid power, and well earns the plaudits of the audience. That excellent comedian Mr Charles Dodsworth plays very capably as Alderman Sacheverell. Mr Clifford Bown is a characteristic Mr Porter, the spy, and the Adjutant is dashingly presented by Mr Lionel Belmore. The representation of Lucy Sacheverell by Miss Mabel Hackney is most artistic, and the audience quite recognise its merit. Miss Grace Hampton as Mistress Porter is excellent. The single scene by Mr W. T. Helmsley is in every way adequate. Earlier in the evening *The Birthplace of Podgers* is given. It is worth revival, if only for Mr Dodsworth's rendering of Tom Crankey, the honest working-man, with an "'our" for his dinner.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, June 20, the Drama, in Five Acts,
Adapted by Geo. R. Sims and Arthur Shirley,
from *Les Deux Gosses*, entitled
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

For the present week Mr F. W. Purcell relies on the old favourite *Two Little Vagabonds*, as his attraction, and the strong and interesting story of the two waifs as interpreted by Hardie and Von Leer's company has been followed with the keenest and closest attention by the audiences here throughout the week. Misses Eva Norman and Effie Dane are highly satisfactory exponents of the two boys, Dick and Wally, and their efforts meet with hearty recognition. Miss Valerie Crispin invests the part of Marion Thornton with no little pathos, and Miss Marie Pritchard is sufficiently repulsive and alcoholic as Biddy Mullins. A manly and earnest George Thornton is found in Mr Lauderdale Maitland, and the Captain Darville of Mr Maurice Holmes is also a good piece of work. Bill Mullins, Dido Bunce, and the Coughdrop are represented by Messrs Fred Dobell, C. P. Amalia, and Fred Archer respectively, each of whom works hard and makes the most of his opportunities. John Scarth is well played by Mr Simon D. Ord, and a capital little sketch of the soldier, Leeson, is contributed by Mr Jack Royal. Barbara Scarth is pleasingly and agreeably presented by Miss Louie Codman and Miss Viola March is a satisfactory Sister Randall. Other parts are filled by Messrs Harry Reynolds, Thomas Blakeman, Hugh Holliman, Hy. Buckland, and Maleston Gatband, and Miss Violet Ingram. The mounting of the piece is adequate.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, June 20, the Drama, in Three Acts,
by Stephen Bond and B. Soane Roby,
"BOY BOB."

Miss Louie Freear, supported by a strong company, is appearing here this week in her revival of *Boy Bob*. It is a good stirring story of strong and well-sustained interest, with plenty of not too-highly-coloured incidents, and an effective dénouement. Miss Louie Freear in the title-rôle, round whom the whole of the piece moves, deserves more than a passing word of commendation for her exceedingly clever delineation—a delineation full of charming naturalness. She completely loses her individuality, and displays wonderful versatility. At times she is very comical, at others touching in her pathos, and always unflagging in energy. She never loses her hold upon her audience. Miss Eileen Munro gives an amusing and well-conceived reading of the designing widow, Mrs Candraugh; and Miss Amy Thomas in the small part of Sal realises to the full the requirements of the character. Miss Dora Rignold affords every satisfaction in her presentment of Edith Vincent, and Miss Jessie Burgwitz does all that is possible in the part of Dora Herrick. Miss Adeline Bourne submits a subtle and at times powerful performance of her rôle of Lottie Brenton, and Miss Dorcas Corsbie does well as Nurse Draycott. Mr Stephen Bond portrays the sufferings of Captain Winton with trenchancy and force, and scores a well deserved success; and the part of Captain Fisher furnishes Mr Leyton Cancellor with many opportunities of exhibiting his undoubted ability. Mr Slaine Mills is also to be congratulated upon his delineation of the brusque old Colonel Vincent, and Mr Arthur Vezin is deserving of notice for his commendable interpretation of Lieutenant Rex Herrick. Mr A. T. Hendon draws a capital picture of the good-hearted Serjeant Field, and loses no opportunity for eliciting the merriment of the audience. Mr Bernard Roby is responsible for a telling study of Serjeant Daniels, and other rôles are well sustained by Mr Briscoe Owen, Mr T. Jones, Mr Edwin Sheppard, and Mr Birmingham. The *pièce de résistance* is preceded each evening by *Good for Nothing*, in which Miss Beryl Mercer and Mr A. T. Hendon highly distinguish themselves, being very ably supported by Messrs Sheppard, Vezin, Owen, and Brown.

PRINCESS OF WALES'S, KENNINGTON.

On Monday, June 20, the Play, entitled
"FRIVOLITY."

The above "acrobatic and musical absurdity" made the audience laugh consumedly on Monday last. Mr John Gerant as Oliver Buckwheat worked very hard, as also did Mr John Leopold, jun., as Daniel Teething, and both these gentlemen were rewarded with hearty and well-deserved applause. Mr Wilfred Vaughan played Jules Vermiglio in conventional style. Miss Ruby Wyndham impersonated Madame Cobweb ably, and Miss Amy Hall was an attractive Lucy Buckwheat. The Original Leopolds adopted various disguises, and assisted in keeping the ball of fun rolling during the whole evening, introducing their very clever tumbling act.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW-CROSS.

On Monday, June 20, the Naval Drama, entitled
"WHY WOMAN SINS."

Messrs Geo. Harris and Fred S. Jennings present Mr Fred Terriss and Miss Winifred Preece in the highly successful naval drama entitled *Why Woman Sins*, by Messrs W. Sheen and F. S. Jennings. The play is exceedingly well received. Mr Roy Fortescue makes a hit as Lieutenant Harry Maxwell. Mr Fred Terriss plays with much incisiveness and dramatic power. Mr George Harris is a clever and amusing Cecil Spencer. Mr Lionel Ellis brings his long experience to bear with excellent results on the part of Jem Rainbird. Mr Austin Lenton causes much laughter by his performance of Sam Spavins. Mr F. Mewburn is funny as Bobby Beans. The other male parts are admirably sustained by Mr Forbes Harrison, Mr Charles Herberte, Mr Tom Grisdale, Mr Edward Beall, Mr Cecil Churton, and Mr D. Montgomerie. Miss Winifred Preece is a charming Lily De Vere; Miss Marie West a smart and clever Nancy Nibble; Miss Kitty Bagnall is good as Mrs Benbow; Miss Nancy Kippaire is a bright and pleasing Nanette; Miss Hilda Merrilees an interesting Nell Desmond; and Miss Mildred Cottell makes an undoubted success as Ida Valette.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, June 20, the Comedy, in Four Acts,
by Sydney Grundy, entitled
"A MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE."

Mr Thomas Kingston's company has appeared in this charming comedy at the Kingston Theatre this week, thanks to the enterprise of Mr Peter Davey, the managing-director of the County Theatre. Each part has evidently been carefully studied. Mr Kingston himself plays the Comte De Candale, and exhibits histrionic gifts of a high order. Mr Ernest Stallard acquits himself with distinction as the Chevalier De Valclos, and Mr David Glassford is impressive as the stern, old-fashioned General. Golden opinions are won by Miss Audrey Ford in the part of the Comtesse, which she fills with an engaging grace that won her many friends. The Marton of Miss Victoria Addison is also very good. Other parts are ably filled by Mr J. Bryon, Jasmin; Mr Arthur Somers, an officer; Mr Alfred West, a Swiss; and Mr Robert Danvers, a footman. The comedy is preceded by Frankfort Moore's comedietta, *Kitty Clive*, in which Kingston playgoers have again the opportunity of seeing and enjoying the acting of Mrs Peter Davey, wife of the managing-director of the theatre, who ably sustains the title-rôle. In this Mr Albert Raynor appears as Jack Bates, Mr Arthur Somers as Tom Sperrots, and Mr J. Bryon as Dick.

THE THEATRICAL FUND DINNER.

(SPECIALLY REPORTED FOR THE ERA.)

The fifty-ninth annual dinner of the Royal General Theatrical Fund was held on Saturday night at the Hotel Metropole, under the presidency of the Solicitor-General Sir EDWARD CARSON, K.C., M.P. This admirable charitable institution was established in December, 1838, for the benefit of those members of the theatrical profession who by the rules of the Covent-garden and Drury-lane Funds were not eligible for those institutions. The immense amount of good which the Royal General Theatrical Fund has done in the course of its existence has frequently been pointed out in these columns. Its claims for generous support have also been eloquently urged by those who have occupied the chair at the annual dinners, and Sir Edward Carson on Saturday night put forward the case for the Fund in a most convincing manner, the immediate results being highly gratifying. Like all similar institutions the Fund has had its good and its bad times, but happily it has of recent years been borne along on the flood-tide of prosperity; and possibly Mr H. B. Irving's strongly expressed desire that the members of his profession may no longer have to make a public appeal for help may in time be fulfilled.

The company numbered about one hundred, the invited guests including Sir Squire Bancroft, the Lord Advocate (Mr Charles Scott Dickson, M.P.), Lord Kinnoull, Mr T. P. O'Connor, M.P., Mr George Alexander, Mr H. B. Irving, Mr George Grossmith, the Hon. Charles Russell, Judge Shortt, Colonel Clifford Probyn, Mr Robert Arthur, Mr Robert Courtneidge, Mr Edward Terry, Mr Boydell Houghton, Mr Charles W. Mathews, Mr Augustus F. M. Spalding, Mr G. I. S. Mosenthall, Right Hon. R. B. Haldane, Mr Ian Malcolm, Mr J. C. Parkinson, Mr H. Marriott, Mr C. Cruickshanks, Mr W. Serjeant, Mr C. I. Coltson, Major Stansfield, Mr E. W. Lambert, Mr H. Rabbetts, Mr E. Morgan, Mr W. A. Collins, Mr A. Haines, Mr H. Evill, Mr F. H. Pedgrift, Mr H. Lazarus, Mr A. Wright, Mr W. Lothian, Mr H. Willis, Mr E. Herepath, Mr W. H. Smeed, Mr Francis Harford, Mr Gregory Hast, Mr W. Ganz, Captain J. Howard, Dr. Middlemist, Mr John Rawlingson, K.C., Mr H. Dobb, Mr H. J. Loveday, Mr A. Hodgkinson, Mr E. W. Drew, Mr W. Rodger, Mr E. C. Silverthorne, Mr J. W. Marchant, Mr G. Scamell, Dr. Allchin, Mr Theodore Lumley (solicitor to the Fund), Mr Walter Lumley, Mr Ernest De Witt, Dr. Wadd, Mr D. Bartlett, Mr H. Pynegar, Mr E. D. Maddick, Mr Slade Butler, Mr A. G. Warren, Mr W. Millwood, Mr T. Maskall, Mr A. E. Dodson, Mr J. A. E Malone, Mr L. Rignold, Mr H. H. Marks, Mr Malcolm Watson, Mr H. Garrick, Mr W. Armstrong, Mr Byron Webber, Mr S. Leigh, Mr C. N. Foreman, Mr A. Hart, Mr J. Glover, Mr W. H. Day, Mr W. Clarkson, Mr A. P. King, Mr W. B. Fearis, Mr H. Hughes, Mr Dillon Croker, Mr W. J. Ebbetts, Mr A. H. Elliott, Mr Charles Rock, Mr Archibald Hamilton, Mr J. Stein Morrison, Colonel P. R. Mockler, Mr Boucher Hawksley, and Mr Charles J. Davies (secretary).

The usual loyal toasts having been duly honoured,

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the toast of the evening, "The Royal General Theatrical Fund," said he remembered when he was very young—and when he was a much more constant attendant at church than he was now—being much struck by a sermon which he heard preached by a very eloquent Irish divine—Irishmen were nearly always eloquent. The particular topic which the preacher selected for his denunciations was the practice which had prevailed through many ages and still continued of saying grace before meals. He expressed a special aversion to one form of grace which ran as follows:—"Lord, relieve the wants of others and make us truly thankful, Amen." He told them they were all very ready on festive occasions to be truly thankful for the good things they received, but how little they thought of relieving the wants of others. But that night, at all events, he felt that they could say grace with some satisfaction, because they were dining together for no selfish object. The meeting together on festive occasions of friends who had a good purpose in view was always pleasant, and that evening they were all ready to acknowledge their indebtedness to many who had in the past catered to their greatest pleasures, and who now in their retirement from the public gaze were too likely to be forgotten in their old age. He had had the pleasure, through the courtesy of their excellent secretary, Mr Davies, of looking through many speeches that had been made on occasions similar to that upon which they had that evening assembled, and he found that it was customary for the proposer of this toast to enter into a long history of the drama tracing it from its cradle to the present day. He could assure his friend Mr T. P. O'Connor that he did not intend in the least to poach upon his particular preserve. In fact, he owed that gentleman a debt of gratitude, for he had in the House of Commons ventured to ask him if he would do them the honour of proposing the toast of "The Drama." He had consented on one condition—that he (the chairman) should propose the toast of the evening, while he (Mr O'Connor) should make the speech of the evening. Though not wishing in the least to make a breach in the contract—for contracts entered into in the House of Commons were always sacred—he was free to admit that with him at all events it was a labour of love to be present on an occasion like that, and to say a word not upon the drama itself but on behalf of those who no doubt had entered upon their profession with the highest hopes, but who having, for reasons he need not enter into, failed to make provision for old age, now expected them to do their share towards mitigating some of the disappointments which they had experienced. He had always thought that there was a great affinity between his own profession and that of the stage. It was true that he never acted in the whole course of his life, but that had not saved him from criticism which might more fittingly have been bestowed upon the profession of the stage. Only that day his attention had been directed by a friend to an article in some magazine in which he was described as "an anæmic Mephistopheles." He remembered an occasion upon which he was holding a brief for one of their greatest actors—he should mention no names—and in a short cross-examination a witness threw up the sponge, and plunged into tears in expressing her schoolgirl love for this particular actor. Whereupon the actor turned to him and said, "At last I understand why there is a slump in the theatres. Why do people come to my theatre to see the impersonation of a distressed witness when they can come here any day and see them under your cross-examination." He was afraid he was a cynic as regarded the ordinary maxims relating to morals. He had very often attended dinners at the Bar when eminent leaders told their younger brethren that every one in the profession who ought to succeed did succeed. And he supposed there were moralists in the theatrical profession who would set an equally interesting heading for a copy. But that was not true according to his experience He had seen men—competent, educated, and zealous—burning the midnight oil, and they had not succeeded. Why he did not propose to explain, though perhaps—and this applied to all professions—there was no room for the success of all their great men. No one admired more than he did success in any walk of life, but his admiration was nothing compared to his sympathies for the failures; and after all even those who attained the very highest rank might in their declining years need the aid of such a society as that which they had met that evening to assist. People would be improvident—to him the fascination of improvidence was thrilling—and improvident people were sometimes very successful. But on the other hand many people who would be provident did not have the chance. He was reading the other day an interesting book called "Behind the Footlights," by Mrs Tweedie, and he came across an interesting letter written by Mrs Siddons to a young would-be actress who had no doubt asked her for an introduction to the stage. This was what a great actress who had attained the greatest eminence in her profession said—"Mrs Siddons presents her compliments to Miss Goldsmith, and takes the liberty to inform her that although herself she has enjoyed all the advantages arising from holding the first situation in the drama, yet that those advantages have been so counterbalanced by anxiety and mortification that she long ago resolved never to be accessory to bringing anyone into so precarious and so arduous a profession." If that was all there was to be got out of success what could be said to those who had not been fortunate. Those who performed on the stage often gave pleasure at a time when they themselves were suffering pain; while they were making the audience gay their own hearts were breaking, and while they were depicting that which was best and highest and most ennobling in the dramatic art they knew that in the home to which they had to return, and in the future they had in store, there was very little to give them the reality of the parts they were so well depicting. The main business of his life had been to try and get verdicts—sometimes in good causes, sometimes in bad. Never did he plead in a better cause than on that occasion, when he asked with confidence for a sympathetic verdict on behalf of the Royal General Theatrical Fund.

Mr T. P. O'CONNOR, M.P., next proposed the toast of "The Drama." He said he hoped they would take as read the apologies which he was bound to make for having this toast entrusted to him instead of some person more worthy to propose it. And they would accept his excuses as being none the less sincere when he said that the reason he was submitting this toast was because his friend and fellow countryman in the chair had requested him to do so. He, however, did not recollect the terms of the contract as being quite the same as those which the chairman had just set forth, but they would understand that, as he was dealing with one of the most experienced and successful cross-examiners of the day, it was not desirable to enter into any controversy with him as to the terms of a contract. The second reason he was proposing this toast was that he desired even in this small way to express his strong sympathy with the objects of the Association for whose benefit they were met that night. He had noticed that the pessimists in their midst were continually foretelling the downfall of the nation, the Church, the navy, and the auxiliary forces, but there was no one who suggested that the drama was losing its hold on the public taste. Indeed, one of the most remarkable changes in London during the past quarter of a century had been the growth of the theatres. He remembered the time when a suburban theatre practically did not exist, and when some dozen or so theatres in the centre of London represented the whole theatrical supply of this great metropolis. Now there were theatres in all parts of London, and he was told that the best investment a man could make was to build a theatre. He supposed it was because there were so many plays which ought to be acted, and so many which ought not. With regard to the change which had taken place in dramatic criticism he thought it was largely due to the enthusiasm of Mr Clement Scott. He sometimes wondered what sort of man Shakespeare was—what he thought of his work and what he thought of himself. The Chairman had pointed to the contrast between the life of the actor on the stage and the actor in his own home. There were many actors living who remembered the time when they experienced a difficulty in procuring rooms at an hotel or even finding decent lodgings. That had all passed now, and the actor and actress held the right place in the social economy and life of this great city. This proved that the theatre was daily a greater social force. People might refuse to go to church, but they did not refuse to go to the theatre, and he had no hesitation in saying that they found there the finest gospels of true humanity and true social well-being. The speaker proceeded to draw a contrast between the work of the novelist and the dramatist, illustrating his meaning by the very dramatic scene in *Resurrection* between Mr Tree and Miss Ashwell. Everyone present must have been struck by the thrill that seemed to pass through the audience. He was at the first production, and the audience was thrilled because they felt they were learning a great lesson which carried with it the lesson that we were largely the creatures of circumstances. And this lesson was taught no less effectively and nobly because it came not from the pulpit but across the footlights of a popular theatre He did not know whether the thought had ever struck them that the theatre was different from any other institution in the fact that rarely, if ever, did they hear from the stage a word of intolerance, or of religious or political bigotry, nor even a word against the canons of good taste or good manners. They never heard from the stage ignoble sentiments; and for weeks in a London theatre had been presented the life of an eastern nation which was at present engaged in a great war. He was afraid that if these matters were presented in the same impartial spirit to political or religious audiences at Exeter Hall or elsewhere there would not be the same readiness to accept them. Referring next to the wonderful powers exercised by the dramatist, he pointed out that a husband murdered his wife and a dry report appeared in the newspaper, but Shakespeare turned it into the tragedy of *Othello*. Two young people were in love with one another and committed suicide, but Shakespeare founded *Romeo and Juliet* on such an incident. It was no wonder, therefore, that some people should think that this power of literary expression was something almost divine. This was the claim that the drama made upon their sympathies and support. There was no profession which gave them greater contrasts of life—sometimes grotesque, sometimes tragic—than the dramatic profession. There were comparisons made between the drama of to-day and yesterday and the drama of this country and of other countries. He regarded all such comparisons as absurd. Every nation had the drama it wanted. When he went to a French theatre he was deeply interested in the picture of life there presented, and no doubt it was the result of national characteristics that they in this country preferred not to see the morbid and the abnormal represented on the stage. He believed that they were just as ready to see fine literature on the stage as any other country, and he had never yet seen a true picture of life presented at the theatre that was not accepted by a British audience. He had to couple with the toast the name of Mr H. B. Irving, who had earned his position as an actor by his own personal genius, though they could never forget that one of his claims to their regard was that he was the son of a man to whom the British stage owed imperishable services.

Mr H. B. IRVING, in reply, said he felt that there was very little to be said in defence of the drama after the eloquent speech of Mr O'Connor. The cause of the drama had never been put before an audience more generously or more justly than it had by the last speaker. For a comparatively young actor to reply to this toast was an act of temerity, because they were told by many persons that there was now no drama, and even if there were they had no actors capable of representing it. He ventured to think that this criticism was a little too severe, and that there was no need for utter despair. He was reminded of Mr and Mrs Curdle in "Nicholas Nickleby"—where the following conversation is recorded—"As an exquisite embodiment of the poet's visions and a realisation of human intellectuality, gilding with refulgent light our dreaming moments, and laying open a new and magic world before the mental eye, the drama is gone, perfectly gone," said Mr Curdle. "What man is there now living who can present before us all those changing and prismatic colours with which the character of Hamlet is invested?" exclaimed Mrs Curdle. "What man indeed—upon the stage," said Mr Curdle, with a small reservation in favour of himself. "Hamlet! Pooh! ridiculous! Hamlet is gone, perfectly gone." This was a school of criticism against which he thought they should guard. If "Hamlet had gone" it was only for a holiday, and before very long in some form or other he would return. There was another school of criticism—not an inconsiderable one—that of the unacted and unsuccessful authors. According to them the state of the drama was a most parlous one. They formed a determined band, and they wrote most scathing denunciations of the modern theatre. It appeared to him that failure in the theatre caused a man to be more angry and bitter than any failure; and this, as in the case of Pope, Dr. Johnson, and others, explained bitter attacks upon the theatre. As to whether they had any actors at the present time that was a delicate question upon which he did not feel inclined to say anything. He thought they might fairly say they had plenty of conscientious actors at least. And they must regard with regret the contemplated retirement within two years of an actor for whose achievements he had always had filial respect. He did not think they could afford to lose him just at present. What they had reason to complain of was that they had no proper means of training their actors. Mr Tree was making an endeavour which might develop into a very worthy scheme, and he wished it every success. The ideal school of acting would be one in which, as at the Conservatoire in Paris, all the leading actors were obliged to teach. The difficulty they had to face in supplying those teachers was that, no matter what the position of an actor in this country might be, if he were in constant employment he could never lend his help to any scheme of that kind for the reason that his whole energies were bent upon making a very precarious living. Turning again to the question of the drama, the prospect was not a very encouraging one. It was time they had a few dramatists whose work commanded the greatest respect, and he thought that we had began to develop a drama of our own. But it was an extraordinary fact that, while in France and Germany there was State aid and a school of acting, this country, which had produced the greatest dramatist the world had ever known, had nothing of the kind. In conclusion Mr Irving said that, while appreciating the generosity of those who gave their assistance to the Fund, he trusted the day would come when the profession would be able to support their own people, and not have to make a general appeal to the public, an appeal which made him feel that there was something wanting in the independence of their calling. They certainly ought to be capable of doing their own work in this respect, and he hoped the day would come when the profession would have the proud satisfaction of knowing that they were supporting their own charities, and not having to rely upon the generosity of others.

Sir SQUIRE BANCROFT, in proposing the toast of "The Chairman," said:—Gentlemen,—I cannot find myself on my feet without attempting to thank Mr O'Connor for the beautiful speech he has made to us about the drama. His wealth of thought, clothed in a wealth of words, will linger in my mind long after I have left this room. The play is over, and all that is left to do before the curtain falls on this entertainment is to drink to the health of the leading actor. The privilege of asking that this may be done has been given to me and, perhaps, you will think it well that the duty should be cheerfully undertaken—however poorly performed—by one who passed the happiest years of his life in the calling which the Solicitor General has this evening so greatly served. Of one thing I am sure, you would not wish me at this time of night to linger over the task. Brevity and sincerity are often close allies, so in simple words and in a simple way, I now, on behalf of this company, thank the warm Irish heart which prompted you to stretch out a kind hand to help those whom we are met here to befriend. You have, sir, in your distinguished career ably held many a brief and nobly pleaded many a cause, but I beg you to believe that you have never had a more grateful client than you have to-night in the poor player. For the kindness you have shown, for the trouble you have taken, we thank you, and let me assure you in the words of the divine poet whose works have made the stage eternal, "Your presence makes us rich." I know, gentlemen, you will one and all join me in most heartily wishing Sir Edward Carson a long life of happy prosperity.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply, expressed his thanks for the way in which the toast had been proposed and accepted. He was in this great metropolis only a forlorn exile, and one of his earliest recollections was meeting Sir Squire Bancroft. His kindness to him since he had come to London was very great; and he once had the pleasure of his company on a trip to Paris. Along the Boulevards his companion was generally recognised, and he felt a kind of reflected glory. From no class in this country had he received more kindness or hospitality than from the members of the theatrical profession, and nothing could give him greater pleasure than being present on an occasion like that, when he could be of the least assistance in aiding a charity so deserving of their loyal support.

MR ROBERT COURTNEIDGE (in the absence of Mr Edward Terry, who had to leave), speaking on behalf of the trustees of the Fund, said they were deeply and sincerely grateful to the Chairman for the eloquent way in which he had pleaded the cause of the charity, and for the excellent result which his efforts had brought. The total subscriptions amounted to £1,462, which included the usual donations from their Majesties the King and Queen (patron and patroness of the Fund); £25 from the Prince of Wales; £50 each from the Duke of Bedford, Sir E. Cassell, and Mr Andrew Carnegie; twenty-one guineas from Sir E. Carson; and seventy guineas from the House of Rothschild, whose kindly assistance to the Fund during many years had gained the gratitude of all connected with it. He further announced that the trustees of the late Miss Nellie Farren (Mr E. C. Silverthorne and Mr Walter Pallant) had granted £500 to the Fund, a like amount to the Actors' Benevolent Fund, and £1,000 to Guy's Hospital to endow a bed to be called the "Nellie Farren Bed." The bequest to the Fund would be so invested as to preserve the memory of Nellie Farren.

The statement of Mr Robert Courtneidge, as it stands, concerning the late Nellie Farren bequest makes it appear that the trustees were making these handsome grants of their own free will. It should, therefore, be explained that Miss Nellie Farren during her lifetime, by a deed dated March 31, 1898, wished the sums as specified above to be distributed in the manner mentioned and her memory to be thus perpetuated.

It may also be of interest to know that at Miss Nellie Farren's benefit, which took place at the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, on March 17, 1898, the sum of £6 000 was realised. This sum, which it was suggested at the time should be employed in the purchase of a Government life annuity, was, on the advice of Mr Alfred De Rothschild, invested in other securities, with the gratifying result that at Miss Nellie Farren's death a sum of £12 500 stood to the credit of the account, thus enabling the trustees to carry out her special philanthropic desires as to the £2,000 to be spent for charitable purposes, and leaving the handsome sum of £10,000 to be divided between her two sons.

The last toast on the list was that of the musical artistes, proposed by Mr CHARLES ROCK and acknowledged by Mr WILHELM GANZ, who remarked that not only on this but on many previous occasions the service of distinguished musical artists had been freely given for this charity. He trusted for many more years to have the honour and pleasure of directing the musical arrangements at this gathering.

Madame Bella Cole sang several songs in the course of the evening in her usual charming manner each being greeted with loud applause. Miss Betty Booker was successful with "J'ai vu passer l'Hirondell" and "Spring." Mdlle. Aurelie Révy gave with much acceptance "Ah fors'é lui" (*La Traviata*) and Tosti's "Vola la Serenata" accompanying herself on the violin. Miss Evangeline Florence gave a delightful rendering of "Thou charming bird" and "The sweet of the year." Mr Gregory Hast scored with "Angels guard thee" and "I'll sing thee songs of Araby." Mr Francis Harford gave "Myself when young" and also joined Miss Betty Booker in the duet "La dove prende" (*Flauto Magico*). The general arrangements, in the experienced hands of the secretary, Mr C. J. Davies, gave complete satisfaction.

"NORMANDELLE."

A Comic Opera, in Two Acts, Produced at the Bijou Theatre, Bayswater, on Tuesday, June 21.

Sir Jasper Normandelle, Bart.	MR LEWIS T. DALRYMPLE
Ned Ray	MR HENRY BEAUMONT
Harry Normandelle	
Cornelius Croddlette	MR EDWIN KEENE
Farmer Bilbury	MR ROBERT FAIRBANKS
Pat Carnigan	MR EDWIN BOLTON.
Andy M'Mack	MR ALFRED WILLINGHAM
"Old Bill"	MR J. KNIGHT
Stella	MISS DAPHNE WHEELER
Rhoda	MISS MAI H. SHAYLER
Betty	MISS S. M. LITTLEJOHNS
Mary	MISS F. WILLINGHAM
Sarah Mellins	MISS E. HATTON

At the Bijou Theatre on Tuesday Mr Parry Cole, the well-known composer, produced a two-act comic opera, the music of which was infinitely superior to the libretto. But this is no uncommon experience to those who have heard many comic operas. Are we not all acquainted with the baronet who has lost his only son, stolen by gipsies? The baronet, Sir Jasper Normandelle (of Normandelle Hall) like the desponding parent in Balfe's *Bohemian Girl*, has his "heart bowed down by weight of woe;" but he need not have been so depressed had he known that his long-lost son was alive and flourishing under the name of Ned Ray as the foreman to Farmer Bilbury, one of Sir Jasper's tenants. The young fellow has also fallen in love with Stella, the adopted daughter of Farmer Bilbury, a fine old crusted agriculturalist. Rhoda, a gipsy girl, is the daughter of the woman who purloined the infant son of Sir Jasper, and she has set her cap at Ned Ray, and is consequently Stella's rival, with the advantage of knowing her mother's secret and the young man's parentage. The scene is a Herefordshire hop-garden. Soon takes place the arrival of a London stage-manager, Cornelius Croddlette. At the end of the first act the touring manager takes Ned and Stella away with him, and during the two years supposed to elapse between the first and second acts Ned and Stella become man and wife. Of course, the papa ultimately recognises his son, and all ends happily, and as Stella only proves to be the adopted daughter of old Billing, the baronet consents to their union. As Crodlette Mr Edwin Keene displayed genuine comic talent. He had some droll passages relating to "going on tour," and sang a kind of "patter song" which greatly pleased the audience. Another excellent performer was Mr Henry Beaumont, who made Ned Ray acceptable by his good singing and intelligent acting. Mr Lewis T. Dalrymple made the baronet a full-flavoured representative of the "good old days." Miss Daphne Wheeler as Stella won no little appreciation in the tuneful melodies Mr Parry Cole had provided for her, and Miss Shayler represented the gipsy Rhoda with considerable spirit. Two of Farmer Billing's men, Pat Carnigan and Andy M'Mack, were played by Messrs Bolton and Willingham in the broadest spirit of farce. Several of the airs were encored, and a song in praise of "Good English beer" by the baronet found favour. Mr Parry Cole conducted the orchestra.

A WARNING TO MANAGERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—On Monday morning last a middle-aged gentleman of affable demeanour and rather seedy appearance presented himself at the acting-manager's office of the Theatre Royal, York, and introduced himself to me as the advance representative of the Esmonde Bramley répertoire company, which will present a cycle of Shakespearian and other plays here next week. Presenting no credentials, he was taken on trust, and promptly arranged for accommodation and food at the house of our bill-inspector. During the day he bustled about, visiting the printer and others permanently associated with the theatre, and even went so far as to talk about wiring to certain theatrical printers for some special work. He called upon a number of theatrical lodging-house keepers, arranged for the accommodation of several members of the company, and, throwing out an artful hint, was in some cases rewarded with a small sum of money as commission on the transaction. Then he went home to tea. Now it curiously happened that the properly accredited agent of the Esmonde Bramley company arrived in the city during the afternoon, and, of course, preliminary to routine work desired to see our bill-inspector. He proceeded to that official's residence and introduced himself. Then came a rather striking situation. Agent No. 1 was rather unceremoniously interrupted at his tea and requested to step into another room, whereupon the Esmonde Bramley representative politely handed him his address card. For a few moments there was a painful pause. Then Agent No. 1, protesting that he could explain everything satisfactorily, was allowed to depart, and there is sufficient reason to believe that he was out of the city within the hour! Of course, he paid for neither food nor lodgings; on the other hand, his brief but inglorious visit to the ancient city was made a trifle remunerative and, perhaps, pleasant by the sympathetic pecuniary contributions of several too-confiding lodging-house keepers. It is fair to him, however, to say that he did not apply to me for a trifle on account; perhaps he thought I did not look a credulous person. I am asking you, sir, to insert this communication in order to put provincial theatre managers on their guard, as many companies have no advance representatives.

Yours faithfully, T. H. BARROW.

Theatre Royal, York, June 22.

THE CARLTON, GREENWICH.

On Monday, June 20, the Military Drama, in Five Acts, entitled

"ON CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE."

The programme this week consists of a military drama, in five acts, written by Mr Charles Clifford, and entitled *On Circumstantial Evidence*. The drama made a good impression on its previous visit, and is equally well received this time. Mr Charles Clifford, the author-manager, gives an excellent interpretation of the character of Captain Hamilton, and is well supported by his capital company, especially by Mr A. M. James as Sir Laurance Kinloch, Mr Henry Dawson as Jack Ogilvy, and Mr Milton Curtis as General Garibaldi. Mr J. Holt plays Sergeant Cavour well; Mr Fred Taylor is effective as Sergeant Gabriel; Mr Larry Clements is very amusing in the part of Jerry Totin; and the remaining male parts are in the capable hands of Messrs Anderson-Delph, James Long, and Lincoln Calthorpe. Miss Gladys Clifford is a clever and pathetic Tim, the waif; Miss Addie is a pleasing Polly Smithers, Miss Maud Camfield, a charming and sympathetic Violet Ogilvy; and Miss Lily Vaughan is well placed as the twin sisters Olga and Mary Brandoni.

"THE FIRE WITCH."

Mystic Drama, in Four Acts, by Daisy Halling. Produced for the First Time at the Theatre Royal, Edmonton, on Monday, June 20.

Mr Stirling	MR TALBOT HINDLEY
Henry Stirling	MR CHARLES HALLING
Lloyd Stirling	MR NORMAN E. PURNELL
Pierre Crox	MR CHARLES STIRLING
Jim Spriggs	MR DAVID BARONE
Willie Wilks	MR WILL HOOK
The Stranger	MR A. KENYON GRAY
The Dead Man	MR PRESTON SMITH
P.-C. Ellis	MR EVERARD CLATPOOLE
Ebe	MR W. V. GARROD
Jeanette Stirling	MISS GERTRUDE ENTWISTLE
Albina Toogood	MRS S. HALLING
Madame Arline Vollmar	MISS DAISY HALLING

Long association with leading parts in strenuous melodrama has enabled Miss Daisy Halling to judge of the popular appetite for sensation, and in a maiden effort, which appeared at the Theatre Royal, Edmonton, on Monday, she tested it to the full. The authoress has given free rein to a vivid imagination in *The Fire Witch*, a strange mixture of the supernatural with the melodramatic, in which graves yawn, the dead rise and speak, and a coffin forms quite a commonplace article of furniture. The central character of the piece is a sorceress, who, despite the 500 years during which she has exercised her baneful influence, looks neither old nor ugly, but just the reverse. Her mission is one of destruction to the human race, and she is aided by a Nubian imp named Ebe, whose joy is regulated by the number of corpses he can secure. The witch first appears amid the snowy steepes of Switzerland, where dwells a young Englishman named Henry Stirling, who is exiled from his country through an accusation of theft really committed by his brother, Lloyd. That individual soon comes on the scene accompanied by his wealthy uncle, who is on a tour of the country, and who heartily welcomes Henry and his bride back to England. A fatal snow slip cuts short the uncle's travels, and Henry finds himself heir to the estates. He would prefer to remain in his present humble station, but the Fire Witch appears, and persuades Henry to accept the wealth and power offered, thus bringing him within the pale of her fell influence. She accordingly removes her spells to England, where, under the name of Madame Vollmar, she establishes herself in a cave on Henry's estate. Her first act is to compel Henry to fall in love with her, ignoring his wife, Jeanette, whom he has brought from her Swiss home. The witch entices Jeanette to her subterranean lair, where she is hidden in a coffin, and only escapes drowning from the incoming tide by the timely action of her husband. Lloyd, who has been engaged by Henry as steward, is pressed into the service of the Fire Witch, who bids him ruin Henry by his evil counsels. Meeting the villain in a churchyard, she gives an example of her powers by calling upon the body of a dead man, who, rising in his grave, testifies to her potency. Lloyd is so overcome by the spectacle that he informs Henry that his wife has been lured by the witch to a lonely house on the countryside, which is to be burnt down. Henry thereupon sets off to the rescue, arriving in time to snatch his wife from the flames by swinging head downwards across a chasm by means of a rope attached to his foot—a thrilling scene well carried out. Realising the evil attaching to wealth, Jeannette persuades her husband to give up his money and return to her native land, while the "fire witch," having thus been defeated "by the love of a good woman," according to the terms of her contract with the Prince of Darkness, is waited upon by that gentleman, but pleads so frantically for a respite that she is given the choice of instant death or another year of life bearing the weight of her five centuries. She chooses the latter course, and is immediately changed into a decrepit old hag, while Lloyd, who has been stabbed by Ebe, rises from the ground and deals the Nubian a deadly blow in return.

The company engaged, many of them of proved ability, co-operated heartily in the rendering of the play, Miss Daisy Halling herself taking the arduous rôle of the Fire Witch. She presented artistically the various shades of malignancy which distinguished the part, and if there was something lacking in the scenes of deep intensity it was manifestly owing to the anxiety of the production, and did not lessen the fascination which the talented actress exercised throughout. Warm praise is also due to Mr W. V. Garrod, who revelled in the ghoulish propensities of Ebe. His facial play was at all times eloquent, despite the colour of his skin, and his agility as the Nubian Imp increased the realism of the embodiment. A winning impersonation of the young wife Jeanette was given by Miss Gertrude Entwistle, who was graceful and buoyant in the lighter passages of the part, and never without sincerity in her moments of pathos. Mr Charles Halling made a striking appearance in the costume of the Mountaineer, and delivered his lines with impassioned energy; Mr Charles Stirling gave a picturesque presentment of a Swiss native, and as the villainous Lloyd Stirling Mr Norman E. Purnell displayed the proper spirit of malevolence, though his lines did not invariably succeed in reaching the ears of all. The comedy scenes are entrusted to a gentleman of the name of Willie Wilks, who woos with an imaginary title a lady with an equally delusive fortune named Albina Toogood. From these parts Mr Will Hook and Mrs S. Halling extracted all possible fun, which was broadened by Mr David Barone as a Cockney-Italian minstrel. Mr Preston Smith made up in a sepulchral manner as the Dead Man, and the satanic Stranger had a good exponent in Mr A. Kenyon Grey, Mr Talbot Hindley acting well as the generous-minded uncle. A good reception was given the piece by the patrons of the Theatre Royal, which, under the proprietorship of Mr J. L. S. Moss, enjoys both a dramatic and music hall licence. It closes on Monday for a month for the purposes of repair.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, June 20th, the Drama entitled "A WOMAN OF PLEASURE"

Although the incidents of the late Boer War have ceased to grip the attention of the public, the two big situations in this absorbing melodrama will always make good bids for popularity with the British public. The scene of the abduction by balloon of the British commander's wife from the camp at Pretoria is indeed exciting, but for thrilling incident the singing of the National Anthem by British troops upon a burning transport at sea would be difficult to beat. Mr Jamess Willard's company have brought the play here this week. Mr W. S. Stevenson makes a dignified Lord Carlingforth. Mr William Vane is emphatic as the virtue-spouting parson, Luke Goddard. Commandant Dench finds a rugged representative in Mr Fred Norburn. Mr Arthur Gilroy gives a forcible rendering of the part of the traitor, Major Burrows. As the noodle, Bobby Bumpwell, Mr Allan Charles is funny at times. As the yokel, Joe Ploughman, with ear-splitting laugh, Mr Ern Carlton is good. Mr Fred Laws, with a good make-up, is excellent as Michael Isitt. Mr Albert Plant succeeds as Captain Lamont. As the Tramp Mr Wilton Ford is smart. Mr Bert Sant plays well as Dawson, the infirm butler. Little Dolly Gilroy makes an engaging Lord Arthur Selwood. The worries and inconveniences of the American tourist, Mrs Josiah Bumpwell, are graphically presented by Miss Grace Chesterfield. Miss Lilly Langfield is a charming Dollie Dimple. In the part of the Countess of Carlingforth, the woman whose ardent aspirations for pleasure never seem to be attained, Miss Evelyn Robson cleverly surmounts the many difficulties of the character. Some very effective scenery by C. E. Markham is employed, while the mechanical effects are ingenious.

B. A.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MR TREE has kindly consented to give a matinée in aid of the Actors' Benevolent Fund at His Majesty's Theatre in October. The Fund is urgently in need of assistance at the present time, owing to the great number of calls which are being made upon its resources; and Mr Coltson, the secretary, informs us that it is quite impossible for it, without liberal assistance, to cope with the distress that is existing.

MR ROBERT ARTHUR has made a proposal which, if adopted by other managers throughout the United Kingdom, would bring a very handsome revenue to the charitable institutions connected with the theatrical profession. He has suggested that the Actors' Benevolent Fund and other similar organisations should supply managers of theatres with books or sheets of vouchers perforated into squares of twice the size of a postage stamp, marked with the name of the particular charity and the name of the theatre, the abbreviation 2d. to be printed in bold type in the centre of the square, which would be a receipt for the amount paid by the free-seater. Members of the profession could, if they desired, retain these vouchers, and after a considerable number had been collected they might be sent on to the different funds and acknowledged as a donation.

MR ARTHUR has therefore decided to levy a tax of twopence each seat on all professional free admissions to the Kennington Theatre and the Crown, Peckham. He will carry out the same system when he takes over the Camden and Coronet Theatres on Aug. 1st. This tax will produce a very considerable sum in a year, and Mr Arthur has settled for the present to divide the proceeds between the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Actors' Orphanage.

MR H. B. IRVING wishes to call attention to the fact that at the recent meeting of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, he did not say that Mr Tree's efforts to provide training for actors were not likely to succeed. He—Mr H. B. Irving—wished them all success, and hoped they might develop into some scheme that should be of great service to our theatre, but that the ideal school would be one in which, like the Conservatoire in Paris, all the leading actors were obliged to teach.

IT will be remembered that one of the most valuable contributions to the Nellie Farren Fund in 1898 was that made by the Messrs Rothschild, who generously offered to undertake the investment, in high-class securities, of the money raised by subscriptions and the benefit, and to guarantee to Miss Farren, in her lifetime, exactly the same amount she would receive were the capital sum sunk in an annuity. Thus the whole of the money remained intact at the death of Miss Farren, who, on her part, undertook to leave £1,000 for the endowment of a cot for the children of actors and actresses, and another £1,000 to be divided between the Royal General Theatrical Fund and the Actors' Benevolent Fund.

How admirably all this—and more—has been carried out was shown at the dinner of the Royal General Theatrical Fund on Saturday last, when it was made known that the advice given by Mr Alfred De Rothschild in 1898 had resulted in doubling the sum received from the Nellie Farren Benefit—that is to say, the £6,000 had become £12,000, and no less a sum than £10,000 will be divided between the two sons of the late Miss Farren. The dramatic profession owes a deep debt of gratitude to Mr Alfred De Rothschild and to the late Miss Nellie Farren for the £2,000 just brought to its aid.

MR CHARLES MANNERS proposes to give an informal little chat on "Music and Musicians," "How to get on in the Profession," and "Temperament," at the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, on Friday, from 3 0 to 5 0 o'clock, when practical hints and advice will be given to students and amateurs. Mr Manners' remarks will be interspersed with songs and duets, by principals, and a few choruses by members of the National English Opera Company, who have kindly volunteered their services for the occasion. Tickets of invitation may be obtained, by letter only, addressed the Moody-Manners Opera Company, Theatre Royal, Drury-lane.

MR "WILLIE" CLARKSON, perruquier to his most gracious Majesty and the Royal Family, and to so many actors and actresses of genius, is about to open a new emporium in Wardour-street. Madame Sarah Bernhardt has signified her intention of laying the foundation stone of the new premises on Saturday. Clarkson has often braved the passage of the English Channel to be present at the famous creations of Madame Sarah Bernhardt in Paris, and to arrange the wig of the famous actress; and many a photo with signatures bearing kind appreciations of the success of the perruquier's efforts are amongst Mr Clarkson's proud possessions.

THE old Prince of Wales's Theatre in Tottenham-street is to be replaced by a house of fine proportions with a holding capacity of nearly 2 000. Mr Frank Verity, who is the architect of the new building, promises a Thespian temple that will accord with the spirit of improvement in theatrical structure, and in which the most elaborate productions can be mounted. It is to have numerous exits, and to take in a large portion of one side of the street, with a restaurant and shops in its rear. A curious thing about the new building is that the old stucco colonnade that sheltered so many distinguished visitors during the Bancroft régime at the little Prince of Wales's Theatre is to be retained. We must confess that, regarded from the architectural point of view, it is an unsightly thing, and we certainly cannot fathom the exact reason for its retention.

WE have often commented indignantly upon the way in which the noble generosity of the theatrical profession is abused by the frequent requests made to artists to appear gratis at "charity" entertainments. The Duchess of Sutherland has agreed with a number of influential Society ladies not to grant the use of their residences for any charitable object unless the performers appearing are paid at least half their customary fees. As Mr Vert and other leading concert agents are co-operating with the Duchess and her friends, there is some hope of the demands made upon the good-nature of the ever-obliging profession being reduced.

LORD LYTTON, who conducted the case against the Chantrey Trustees in the Lords, was born at Simla, the third, but first surviving, son of the first Earl of Lytton, who became Viceroy of India at forty-five, and died as British Ambassador at Paris in 1891. In his undergraduate days Lord Lytton was one of the most enthusiastic members of the Cambridge University Amateur Dramatic Club, and made an appearance as Alfred Evelyn, in his grandfather's well-known play *Money*.

MR CHARLES FROHMAN was so much pleased with the success which attended the performance of the Duke of York's company in *The Admirable Crichton* at the Renaissance Theatre, Paris, last June, that he is going to establish an English theatre in the French capital, and has gone to Paris to conclude negotiations. He proposes to commence his season next spring

MISS MARY ANDERSON, at the People's Palace, Mile-end, on Thursday, recited to 2,000 poor people, "I am an Actor," the well known tirade from W. S. Gilbert's "Comedy and Tragedy," and also read the murder scene in "Macbeth."

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM has kindly lent the New Theatre for a matinée performance in aid of the Benevolent Fund of the Foreign Press Association in London on Friday next. The matinée, which is receiving the immediate patronage of the foreign Ambassadors and Ministers in London, will be remarkable on account of the eminent actors and actresses whose names will appear on the programme. Amongst these are Mdme. Sarah Bernhardt, Mdme. Réjane, Mdlle. Martha Régnier, Mdlle. Gabrielle Dorziat, M. Coquelin, Mr Beerbohm Tree, Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore, Madame Emma Calvé, M. Plançon, M. Kubelik, M. Auguste Van Biene, M. Renaud, Mr Courtice Pounds, Miss Annie Hughes, and Herr Otto Voss. The programme will include a playlet entitled *The Bishop's Candlesticks*, written by Norman M'Kinnell, and founded on an episode in Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables," and a comedy by Mrs Cabel Porter and Mr J. Condurier, which goes by the name of *A 24-h.p. Elopement*. The conductors of the orchestra on this occasion will be M. André Messager, Signor Tito Mattei, Signor Bisaccia, Mr Leonard Calvert, and Herr Ludwig Schwab, while M. Abel Tarride, Mr Arthur Lewis, and others will preside over affairs in connection with the stage. A programme is being specially designed by Mr Dudley Hardy, and the original drawing will be exhibited in the theatre and raffled for at the conclusion of the performance.

IN the West of America they know—or think they know—all about important managers' businesses. A paper says: "It is a pleasant thing to observe by the San Francisco papers that Maude Adams gives no Sunday night performances. This is something so rare to San Franciscans that they have hardly yet done wondering how any young star can turn her back with so much indifference on the sure prospect of a $1,500 or $2 000 audience. Speaking of finances in connection with Maude Adams, it is interesting to note that her season, which ends in California within the next few days, has been as successful as any she ever undertook. Just what her box-office records are no one knows but herself and her manager, but at a rough guess it can be set down that she has played in the present season at least 150 performances, to receipts averaging $1.500 a night, a gross of $225,000. Of this amount her manager would retain at least 75 per cent., or $168,750. His expenses for the season, including a stiff salary to his star, would probably not exceed $50,000 or $60,000, so that on the seven or eight months Mr Frohman is very comfortably ahead on his enterprise."

MADAME SARAH BERNHARDT recently, meeting Monsieur Max when passing through Paris, was able to make up a quarrel between them, arising from Monsieur Max's unwillingness to cede his place on the programme to a temporary guest at Madame Bernhardt's house during the run of *Varennes*. Monsieur Max considered his dignity hurt. The tragédienne treated the whole affair as a joke; but when Monsieur Max proved stubborn she let him go, Monsieur Chameroy taking his place; whilst Monsieur Max went to the Porte-St.-Martin to create the part of the Jesuit, in *Electra*. In Paris he and Madame Bernhardt made up their differences, and he consented to "return to the fold" and appear with Madame Bernhardt in London, as the Grand Inquisitor, in *La Sorciere*.

MRS LANGTRY'S jewels, which were sold by auction at Christie's on Monday, fetched high prices. They included a long brilliant neck-chain, with pear-shaped pendant pavé with brilliants, £1,500; a pair of brilliant brooches, formed as a spray of lilies, and the initials "L.L.," £400; and a ring set with a large square emerald and brilliant, £335.

MISS LILLIAN RUSSELL, the well-known American actress, who is at liberty after being for several seasons with Messrs Weber and Fields, was offered a London engagement recently, which she was obliged to decline. To an interviewer Miss Russell said, "I am immensely sorry that my American contracts forbid my accepting the offer from the English manager. The hideous trail of one-night stands, where I feel I have left a little of my ambition, a little of my energy, and a great deal of my vitality during the past few weeks, inspires me to wish that I might sing for a few nights in a country where the long, dusty reaches of the alkali desert, the weary, hungry, dispiriting roving from town to town that are the appointed portion of the strolling player here, do not exist."

"ONE may tour the whole of England," says Miss Lillian Russell, "and not travel so far or so fatiguingly as a run from New York to Pittsburgh. America, with all its heaven-bestowed advantages, will never be the cradle of the highest stage art until the abolishment of the one-night stand as a recognised institution. It is not considered necessary for the favourite London artist to tour even the restricted area of the British provinces to establish his standing as a star, and it should not be necessary in this country for the recognised artist to make a yearly bid for approval over the remote Pacific circuit. It is no wonder that an American singer or actor likes to play in England, and that one grows to fancy sometimes that the Briton is justified in his unalterable belief that his right little, tight little isle is the custodian and conserver of all the lyric and dramatic talent on the English-speaking stage."

"I HAVE just returned," continues the actress, "from a campaign of one-night stands, and I positively declare that no salary is large enough to compensate for the injury to one's art inflicted by the fly-by-night system of travel which is imperatively demanded of artists who tour this country. America is a country of such magnitude that a dramatic pilgrimage from ocean to ocean necessitates hurried flights from the theatres to the railway trains, long, fatiguing journeys, and frantic rushes to hotels. Frequently it is impossible to go to a hotel for rest and food before going to the theatre for the night's performance. In the journey, for instance, from 'Frisco to Chicago we had three weeks of one-night stands, only broken by stops of a couple of days at Denver, Salt Lake, and one other town whose very name I have forgotten in the general ghastliness that attaches to the recollection of those awful journeys. There were some days when there was no dining-car attached to the train until lunch time, and the members of the company fasted ignominiously except for such feasting as was possible upon the lunch counter provisions carried aboard by the wise virgins in the chorus. Arriving tired, cold, and famished at the scene of the night's endeavour, what artist could give a really worthy performance under such conditions?"

AMONGST those present at the opening on Monday of the Lyceum Club for Women, which has secured for its club house the premises of the Imperial Service Club, overlooking the Green-park in Piccadilly, were Sir Charles Wyndham, Mrs George Alexander, Mr David Bispham, Dr. and Mrs Cohen, Mr and Mrs R. C. Carton, Mr and Mrs Arthur Dolsy, Mrs Ian Forbes-Robertson, Mr and Mrs George Grossmith, Mr and Mrs Weedon Grossmith, Mr and Mrs Carl Hentschel, Mr Joseph Hatton, Mrs R. C. Lehmann, Mr and Mrs Felix Moscheles, Mr Hamish M'Cunn, Miss Mary Moore, Mr Mostyn Pigott, Mrs Pinero, Miss Marion Terry, Mr and Mrs Israel Zangwill, Mr Hubert Henry Davies, and Mr and Mrs Martin Harvey.

AT the special matinée which will be given by Miss Granville and Mr Guy Waller, at the Duke of York's Theatre on Tuesday, a new one-act comedy, by Miss Estelle Burney, entitled *The Wisdom of Lord Glynde*, will be produced.

MISS EVIE GREENE has been seriously ill again. She caught a severe chill, which, coming upon her after many months of exhausting work, brought on a painful illness. Although recovering, she is still very weak, and has been ordered complete rest.

MR AUGUSTE VAN BIENE, who opened at the Stratford Borough Theatre, on Monday, for a week's engagement with *The Broken Melody*, became seriously indisposed on Wednesday with nervous prostration, and consequently there was neither matinée nor evening performance. Although much better on the following day, Mr Van Biene was too unwell to appear on Thursday night, and left for Clacton-on-Sea to recruit. Mr Fred Fredericks, with characteristic promptitude, secured at a few hours' notice the services of Mr Harry Paulton and his company, who, fortunately, happened to be disengaged, and the theatre was opened on Thursday night with *Niobe* in the bill for the rest of the week.

MR THEODORE KREMER, the successful German-American playwright and author of *The Fatal Wedding*, *An Actor's Romance*, and numerous other plays, has been in London for the past five weeks on his annual visit. He left yesterday for Paris, and after a short stay in the French capital will proceed to Buda-Pesth, which he tells us is his favourite European city. He will remain there for a few weeks, returning to New York about the middle of August. At the conclusion of the forthcoming season Mr Kremer will retire from his active theatrical labours in order to spend a considerable period in London for the purpose of studying life in our great metropolis. It is his intention to write an English military drama for production in the States.

MR CHARLES J. CAMERON, who for the past seven years has been under the management of Mr Fredk. Mouillot, affords yet another instance of "the legitimate" recruiting from the ranks of light opera, having been engaged for the autumn by Mr Martin Harvey. Mr Cameron is chiefly known in the provinces through his long connection with *The Shop Girl*, but he has also appeared in *A Gaiety Girl*, *The Circus Girl*, *A Runaway Girl*, *The Geisha*, and *A Greek Slave*. Mr Cameron is an accomplished musician, having had a thorough training in organ-playing and theory at Norwich Cathedral.

MISS KATIE LEECHMAN, widow of the late Bert Haslem, was a "star" at the old Globe Theatre, Johannesburg, in the palmy days of the "Elton" company. At that time Miss Lillian Stanbridge was also a member of the company, and two admirers of these popular songstresses were discussing their vocal merits at the theatre bar. One was loudly asserting the undoubted pre-eminence of Miss Stanbridge, whilst the other was equally fervent in praise of Miss Leechman. Everything which could possibly be brought forward in favour of either cantatrice was most vehemently urged, but the climax was reached when one triumphantly declared that Miss Leechman was undoubtedly the "bella-donna (!)" of the company.

A MEETING of the committee which organised the recent Charity Matinée at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, was held on Tuesday afternoon at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, for the purpose of receiving the financial report, and making the allocation of the balance available for distribution. Mr J. F. Graham presided. Mr Levy, in presenting the report, said that this year the amount available for distribution was £386 2s. 1d., which was a record total, the previous largest sum being £365 17s. 11d. Since 1899 the theatre, in conjunction with the Small Heath Football Club, had been the means of raising no less a sum than £1,959 19s. 5d. in aid of the local charities. On the motion of Councillor Freeman, seconded by Mr Withnell, it was decided to allocate the sum as follows, leaving a balance of £1 2s. 1d. in hand:—General Hospital, £60; Queen's Hospital, £60; Children's Hospital, £60; Women's Hospital, £50; Ear and Throat Hospital, £10; Eye Hospital, £10; Spinal and Orthopædic Hospital, £10; Skin and Lock Hospital, £10; Actors' Benevolent Fund, £10; Music Hall Benevolent Fund, £10; Amalgamated Musicians' Union, £10; District Nursing Institution, £10; General Dispensary, £5; Birmingham Military Veterans' Association, £15; Police Aid Association, £10; Pentland's Robins, £5; Birmingham City Mission, £5; Moseley Convalescent Hall, £5; Charity Organisation Society, £5; Hospital Saturday Committee (special fund, for liquidating debt on Marle Hall), £25.

"THE NAW HOUSEMAID," one of the latest farcical comedies produced, celebrates its 150th performance to-night at Malvern Theatre, played by Messrs Windermere and Brooks's company. The successful piece has taken a long lease of life. A first-class autumn tour has been booked by Mr Brooks, and includes many of the best towns in the provinces. Contracts for 1905 are being sent by managers who have heard of the triumph attained by this amusing play.

AT the Theatre Royal, West Bromwich, the stage is occupied this week by Mr H. Starr and Miss Ethel Danbury with an abbreviated version of *Carl the Clockmaker*, played twice nightly. Is this not a sign of the times?

"THE SERPENT'S TOOTH," which was produced so successfully at Kingston a few weeks back, has been rechristened *A Modern Judas*, and will be sent on tour by the author, Mr John Denton, commencing at the Grand, Islington, on July 25. The cast will include Mr Percy Rhodes, Willie Scott, John Denton, Kate Walbran, Ada Palmer, and Violet King. The business arrangements are in the hands of Mr C. St. John Denton, of Maiden-lane, Strand.

MISS MAGGIE MORTON has acquired the rights of, and will tour at Christmas, a new Irish-American drama, by Fred K. Herman, entitled *By Killarney*.

MR W. SCOTT PHIPP is again for the summer season at the Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth, where he is very popular. Since leaving Yarmouth last autumn he has fulfilled engagements with Messrs Forbes-Robertson and Wilfred Cotton's *Light That Failed* company, in pantomime with Mr Robert Arthur at Grand Theatre, Glasgow, and on on a subsequent tour with the latter gentleman.

MR FRANK HARDING, despite many tempting offers to continue the run of *Home, Sweet Home*—with which, by arrangement with Mr Frank Lindo, he has been touring the suburbs—is compelled to terminate the tour at the Grand, Islington, on July 9, owing to a previous engagement to appear for some weeks in London in his original part of Zadok Foxbane in Mr F. A. Scudamore's latest play, *A Beautiful Avenger*, opening at the Standard, Shoreditch, on July 11.

MR EDWARD VALENTINE, who has just concluded third tour with Mr Beerbohm Tree's *Eternal City* company, has been engaged by Mr Arthur Carlton for his stock season at Worcester and Ealing.—Mr Vivian Grantham having released Mr Charles B. Vaughan from his engagement as Prince Mazaroff, in the forthcoming production of *Slaves of Passion* at the Elephant and Castle on July 25, the part will be played by Mr Allan Wilkie, late of Mr Beerbohm Tree's company.

SIR THOMAS K. DEWAR, M.P., will preside at the 101st anniversary festival of the Licensed Victuallers' School, at the Crystal Palace at 4 0 p.m. on Tuesday next. The Institution wholly maintains, clothes, and educates 250 children of deceased or distressed licensed victuallers at an annual outlay approaching £8,000.

MR FORBES-ROBERTSON'S revival of *Mice and Men* at the Duke of York's Theatre has met with such success that the piece will probably run until the end of July. Mr Robertson will then take a month's holiday, after which he will tour the provinces during the months of September, October, and November. Before the fall of the year he will be in America, which country he will tour for some four months with a répertoire of plays in which most likely *Hamlet* and *Othello* will be included.

MR BEERBOHM TREE will appear at His Majesty's Theatre next autumn as Caliban, in *The Tempest*, and Miss Viola Tree will enact Ariel, Mr Basil Gill playing Ferdinand.

AT the New Theatre on Tuesday afternoon next a dramatic performance is to be given in aid of the funds of the East London Hospital for Children at Shadwell. The matinée, which is under the patronage of H.R.H. the Princess of Wales and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, is to commence at half-past two o'clock, and will include three plays by Lady Clarke Jervoise, the names of which are *L'Œillet De Ninette*, a French play with incidental music; *The Vow*, a new English piece; and *Alfred*, a duologue. The performance is under the management of Mr Ian Robertson, and among those who will appear before the footlights are Messrs Charles and Léon Quartermaine, A. F. Clarke Jervoise, Reyntiens, Pike, Captain the Viscount Dalrymple, and Lady Clarke Jervoise, the Hon. Winifred Norton, the Hon. Edith Cadogan, and Miss Clarke Jervoise.

"THE ISLAND OF PHAROS," a new and original comic opera, in two acts, written by William Caine and composed by Osborne Roberts, will commence a short preliminary tour at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, on July 11, prior to its production in London. The company is under the direction of Mr Augustus Bingham.

MISS MARGARET HALSTAN, who is steadily rising in her profession, has been engaged to play the parts of Ann Page and Calpurnia, in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Julius Cæsar*, in the forthcoming matinée performances at His Majesty's Theatre.

MR LESLIE HUGHES, the popular acting-manager of the Camden Theatre, was specially honoured on Saturday evening. After the curtain had fallen on *The New Barmaid* several members of that company, some of the staff of the theatre, and a number of Mr Hughes's personal friends assembled in the saloon to assist in a very agreeable little ceremony. Dr. Thompson, one of the most popular medical men in north-west London, very gracefully voiced the sentiments of those present by dwelling on the amiability, business tact, and genial courtesy that were shown by Mr Hughes on all occasions. They were always sure of a pleasant evening at this beautiful local theatre, and Mr Hughes, in front, always had a hearty welcome for them. The Doctor referred also to Mrs Hughes in most complimentary terms. He felt great pleasure in handing to Mr Hughes a silver salver and a tea and coffee service. The inscription on the salver, a beautiful specimen of the silversmith's art, reads as follows:—"Presented to Leslie Hughes, Esq., by a few playgoers of the Camden Theatre in appreciation of his courtesy to them on all occasions."

MISS DAISY DE ROY, after her successful experience of producing pantomime two years in succession, sixteen weeks the first year and twenty-six weeks the second, has determined to tempt the theatres again, this time with a nautical musical comedy entitled *An English Belle*. In this she will be assisted by Mdlle. Lucretia, who is in partnership with her.

THE little theatre of the Pré-Catalan Gardens in the Bois de Boulogne, Paris, which was reopened on Wednesday, after years of neglect, with a performance of *King Œdipus* by Mounet-Sully, is a roofless amphitheatre of the classical type. Built in 1856, it was for ten years a favourite place of amusement.

MISS MARGARET RADCLIFFE, who has recently had a tempting offer for South America and the United States, has been secured by Mr John Hart for pantomime.—Mr Johnnie Schofield has been secured by Mr Robert Arthur for his pantomime at the Coronet Theatre.—Mr Walter Beaumont has been re-engaged by Mr W. S. Penley to create the part of J. Daggs, K.C., in his forthcoming comedy.

M. PIERRE BERTON is busy on his adaptation of Gyp's novel "Le Friquet," which Mr Chas. Frohman has secured for the autumn. M. Berton is also up to his eyes in work over the production of his "historical romantic drama" which is to be put on with unusual splendour at the Paris Ambigu in the autumn.

MISS SYBIL LYNE-STEPHENS, who was recently married to Sir Henry Bedingfeld, is a descendant of Mdlle. Duvernay, the celebrated dancer, who first appeared in London at Drury-lane in 1833. She introduced the cachuca to the British public, and for several seasons was a great public favourite. In 1845 she wedded Mr Lyne-Stephens, a wealthy banker and Member of Parliament.

MR ALFRED MANNERS having undertaken the personal management of the Queen's Theatre, Swindon, Mr Craude Jullion has relinquished the position of resident manager, which he has held for the past two years.

IT is to be deeply regretted that some Parisian playwrights place their pen and their talent at the disposal of a certain class of politicians, whose self imposed mission is to raise trouble. *La Boussole*, a five-act comedy by a gentleman who conceals himself behind a pseudonym, has been forbidden by the Paris censor on account of the offensive political allusions it contains, which have nothing whatever to do with the plot. The author was requested to suppress these objectionable allusions, and as he refused to do so the piece will not be produced. The Paris censor is not always blameless; but in this instance he acted with commendable judgment.

MR FRANK A. GORDYN, of Gordyn and Gelling, sailed for New York on the 18th inst., to complete the arrangements for the American production and tour of Mr William P. Sheen's powerful drama *The Temptress*, which has been successfully toured in London and the provinces by Messrs Gordyn and Gelling for forty-two weeks, and which will start again on June 30th, and is booked up till Whitsun, 1905. Before sailing Mr Gordyn commissioned Mr William P. Sheen to write another drama for the same firm, and signed the contract for it. It is to be produced in the coming autumn, and will have for its main idea a subject which has never yet been dealt with in drama.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, her Imperial Highness the Duchess of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and her Serene Highness Princess Victoria Eugénie of Battenberg were present at the performance of *La Navarraise* and *Pagliacci* at the Royal Opera, Covent-garden, on Thursday night.

MISS MARIE M'AULAY, who has concluded a spring tour with Mr Fred Melville, playing Carmen De Savereaux, in *Between Two Women*, has been engaged by Mr Walter Melville for his London season.—Mr Cyril Austen-Lee has been engaged for Mr Gordon Starkey's *Message from Mars* company to play Horace Parker.—Mr Lawson Lambert will conclude a twelve months' engagement as business-manager for Mr J. B. Mulholland on July 16.

MRS FISKE will head a stock company at the Manhattan Theatre, New York, next season, her intention being to remain in New York during the entire winter. The season will begin in September with a revival of Langdon Mitchell's *Becky Sharp*, the dramatisation of "Vanity Fair" presented by Mrs Fiske several years ago at the Fifth-avenue Theatre. This play will be followed for a brief term by *Hedda Gabler*. A play by C. M. S. M'Lellan, entitled *The Great White Light*, will probably be the first new production of the season. Maeterlinck's *Monna Vanna* will be given with a fifteenth century setting, and in accordance with the author's ideas and directions. Ibsen's *Rosmersholm* will be presented, too, and it is likely that another Ibsen play, never done in America, will be included in the season's offerings. Mr Fiske also has plays by J. Hartley Manners, John Luther Long, and other dramatists awaiting production. One of his plans for the Manhattan Theatre is to give special performances of interesting plays in the form of a subscription series. Mr Fiske is also considering the advisability of setting apart one or two performances each month, to be known as "popular nights," when the prices will be reduced for the benefit of playgoers to whom the usual charge for seats is prohibitive.

MR IVAN CARYLL, on a recent visit to Paris, took a great fancy to *Prince Consort*, one of the most popular Parisian productions of the year, and has obtained permission from the authors, MM. Xanrof and Chancel, to turn the piece into a musical play, to be performed in London next season.

MR ARTHUR CARLTON has taken a long lease of the Albert Theatre, Gainsborough, and will open the house after considerable alterations in November under the title of the King's Theatre.

WHEN the present season at the Queen's Theatre, Swindon, closes on Saturday next, Mr Ernest Carpenter will relinquish his interest in that playhouse, and Mr Alfred Manners will then become sole lessee and responsible manager, opening on August Bank Holiday with that entertaining musical comedy *The Lady of Ostend*. Mr Manners will work the house on an entirely different basis, and book only good class companies. During the month's vacation £600 will be spent on painting and redecorating the theatre throughout, and a complete installation of electric lighting will be introduced before and behind the curtain. The stalls will be entirely reseated, recarpeted, and embellished with most exquisite decorations, while the entrance will be altered and made highly attractive. The local municipal authorities have undertaken to run a service of late tram-cars, and two-horse conveyances will take playgoers to districts not reached by cars on the fall of the curtain after each performance. A special feature will be made of the orchestra.

THE Mermaid Society gave two beautiful and artistic representations of Milton's Masque of *Comus* and Ben Jonson's *Cupid* on Tuesday and Wednesday nights, in the gardens of Worcester College, Oxford. There was a large attendance, and the performers met with a hearty reception. In *Comus* Mr Roland Cunningham was excellent as the attendant Spirit; Mr Nigel Playfair was good as Comus; Miss Tita Brand scored a success as the Lady; Mr Frank Lascelles and Mr Milton Rosmer delivered their speeches as first and second brothers with excellent point and effect, and Miss Gladys Marriott was a good Sabrina. The dances were quite pretty. *Comus* was followed by *Cupid*. In this Miss A. Potter was a capital Venus, the Three Graces were presented with much charm by the Misses Fletcher, Martin, and Taylor, and Miss Geraldine Wilson was a sprightly Cupid. The whole was produced under the direction of Mr Philip Carr.

THE management of the Avenue Theatre arranged an extra performance of *Yvette* for Friday evening, giving *Antoinette Sabrier*, followed by *Les Côteaux du Médoc*, for this afternoon. The production of *La Bourse ou la Vie* is therefore postponed till Monday.

MR HOWARD HINTON will revive on July 11 at the Colosseum Theatre, Oldham, the well-known play, *Honour Bright*. A strong cast has been engaged, and it is intended to tour the drama through the autumn. The company will be under the business-management of Mr H. C. Clements.

MISS ELSPETH DUDGEON has been engaged for the part of the Countess Plumleigh, in Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's forthcoming tour of *Little Mary* and for that of Lady Kimcordie in *The Bugle Call*.—Mr Norman A. Overton has been re-engaged by Messrs Haddon and Loader for his original part in *The King of Thieves* on autumn tour.

MR HENRY TWEEDIE, business-manager, and possessor of the silver championship belt presented to J. C. Heenan, the celebrated pugilist, by the editor of *Bell's Life in London* in 1830, realised the sum of £50 for it at the recent sale by Debenham, Storr, and Sons, Limited.

AT the Moulin Rouge, Paris, was produced on Saturday night an adaptation of *The Toreador*, by MM. Fordyce and Bosquet. Miss Ellen Baxone, who made such an excellent impression in *The Belle of New York*, appears as Nancy Stratton, and gives a charming performance. Mdlle. Jeanne Yannick, from the Opera Comique, plays the part of Cara Pansy admirably, and Miss Champton creates a favourable impression as Teresa.

MR ERNEST CARPENTER has taken a lease of the Eden Theatre, Brighton, which he will open on July 27 with *Boy Bob*. The name of the theatre has been changed, and it is now to be known as the Grand.

DESPITE the heat, the takings in those of the Paris theatres which have not closed their doors do not, says our correspondent, show a considerable falling-off. It is true the exodus from Paris has commenced; and even those left behind are not tempted to perspire in the hot playhouses, but prefer to sip their "bock" in the cool of the evening outside a café or in one of our open-air music halls, which, of course, are doing a roaring trade. Fortunately, there are still the strangers and the provincials, on whom the heat does not seem to take any effect, and as long as they turn up—as they do now—in goodly numbers, the Parisian managers have not much cause to grumble.

AT the Variétés M. Samuel is very busy with his preparations for his operettes. In the manager's sanctum M. Samuel—his straw hat, as usual, at the back of his head—receives the candidates of both sexes, and engages "voices" and pretty faces by the dozen, whilst in another room a jury, consisting of some of our best-known composers, discuss the merits of the new operettes sent in for approval. They are either difficult to please, or the operettes submitted to them are of an inferior quality, for, thus far, few works have found favour in their eyes. Among those that passed muster is *Petite Bohéme*, by M. Paul Ferrier, music by M. Henri Hirchman.

IT really, however, seems as if a magic button had been touched which brought about a perfect epidemic of operettes, for the Gaîté, too, has put aside its répertoire, and will momentarily take up operette. Until further notice its patrons are to have no more declamatory efforts, no more historical plays, no more enthusiastic tirades. On July 1, and during the holidays, MM. Hertz and Jean Coquelin will present comedies and vaudevilles, and will open the ball with *Un Lycée de Jeunes Filles*, with MM. Guyan *fils*, Regnard, Bardet, and Madame Berthe Legrand in the principal rôles.

THE CLEMENT SCOTT MATINEE.

The trenchant pen is laid aside; the brilliant career is ended. These were the sad thoughts that came to the many brother journalists and fellow critics who formed a portion of the great gathering at His Majesty's on Thursday, on the occasion of the Clement Scott matinée. The sadness was deepened, too, by the news of the invalid's condition circulated in the theatre. But we need not dwell on the despondent note. It might well have been dispelled by the spirit of kindness that animated the legion of Mr Scott's friends, which include every leading litterateur and actor of note. Those who love the theatre and the dramatic art must have rejoiced at the noble response of the profession to the appeal for the sick and suffering man who never wearied in his endeavour by voice and pen to raise the status of the drama. From the time that Mr Clement Scott, full of boyish enthusiasm, began to write about the London theatres in these columns until he was stricken down he was keenly sensitive regarding his friends behind the footlights and always feverishly active in their defence. He put all the ardour of an emotional nature into his work. His articles in the great daily for which he did such admirable reviews will always be remembered for their picturesque force, their wonderful command of detail. He could pour out the lava of his ridicule, but he could be exceedingly kind, and if he erred it was certainly on the side of leniency. It is not for us, however, to speak at any length of a notable career. We feel, indeed, that our pen is stayed in its course by the spirit of the beautiful lines of Mr Louis N. Parker, so fervently and pathetically delivered by Mr Forbes-Robertson at the end of the matinée. They run as follows:—

THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 1904.

All ye, who love the glamour and the blaze
Of footlights and the actor's magic art,
Think of the weary man who sits apart,
Patient in suffering, through the summer days.
We bring no futile wreath of gilded bays,
But the bright treasures of the Thespian cart,
And kindly messages to cheer his heart,
Who cheered our hearts so often with his praise.
Think of him, then, with tenderness and ruth,
Who rests awhile upon his toilsome way,
Who yearns to clasp each warm and generous hand,
But, sick and spent, retiring from the fray,
Can only smile and point towards Poppyland,
Dreaming of bygones and the things of youth.—L. N. P.

It was, as it should have been, the matinée of the season. The flower of the profession graced the stage, and there was much novelty in the excellent bill, which opened with a musical dialogue, or, rather, operetta, gracefully written by Mr B. W. Findon, one of Mr Clement Scott's younger fellow critics, the music being from the tuneful pen of Mr Edward Jones. The title, *The Marchioness*, at once suggests that the subject is the brave, honest, and quaint little drab so pathetically pictured for us by Charles Dickens. The scene is in the office of Sampson Brass, between the odd little person and Dick Swiveller. The music for the most part consists of duets, the gem being one written in gavotte time. It was given in delightful fashion by Mr Farren-Soutar, who played Dick Swiveller with the buoyancy and optimism that are so characteristic of that rôle, and Miss Hilda Trevelyan, who was quite a revelation in the part of the Marchioness. Following the operetta, which was most favourably received, Mr Charles Warner, who made his first appearance since his return from America, recited the famous "Queen Mab" speech from *Romeo and Juliet*—a perfect elocutionary effort. Then, to fill up a gap, he gave a portion of Bret Harte's poem, "Mouth of the Pit." The popular actor had a very hearty reception. But the reception of the afternoon was accorded to Sir Henry Irving, who repeated his impressively pathetic performance of Corporal Gregory Brewster, in *Waterloo*, being supported by Mr Lionel Belmore, an admirable representative of the sergeant of artillery; by his son Laurence as the Colonel; and by his daughter-in-law, Miss Mabel Hackney, as the niece—a combination that brought out to the full the simple power of Sir Conan Doyle's dramatic gem. The second novelty of the afternoon was the romantic play, in one act, by William J. Locke, entitled

"FLOWER O' THE ROSE."

Messer Simone Cambi	Mr GEORGE ALEXANDER
Conte Niccolo Ordelaffi da Forli	Mr HARCOURT WILLIAMS
Luigi Bardo	Mr HERBERT DANSEY
Monna Lucrezia Cambi	Miss LILIAN BRAITHWAITE
Gianetta	Miss MARGARET BUSSE

A somewhat gruesome little piece, with plenty of power and dramatic grip, however. The pivot of it is the revenge of a husband—a Florentine merchant prince named Messer Simone Cambi—on his wife's lover, the Conte Niccolo Ordelaffi da Forli, whose reputation for gallantry is the talk of the city of Florence. The lovely Lucrezia Cambi, in the absence of her prosy partner, Simone, listens to the love pleadings of the Conte Niccolo. As she says, she wants so much love and has so little. She has never heard love's music, and the voice of the passionate young wooer sounds sweet in her ears. For Niccolo she decks her hair with pearls and wears a rose at her breast, little heeding the warning of her superstitious maid that it suggests blood. Love's avowals are interrupted by the return of Simone, and with a sinking at heart Lucrezia bids the Count stay. He is welcomed with covert sarcasm by the husband, who presses him to drink of a rare wine from a cup that has a history, and warns him that if he spills a drop it is a foreboding of bloodshed. On two occasions, indeed, has the flagon been associated with murderous deeds. The men become heated with wine, and Simone suggests sword-play. He wishes to test the mettle of the Count, who has the reputation of being the finest swordsman in Italy. In grim earnest Simone brings forth two large rapiers, and it is soon discovered by the terrified wife that her husband intends to kill the Count. The husband overturns the goblet, and it dyes the white drapery a blood red. The evil omen shall be fulfilled. The attack becomes fiercer, and the husband runs the Count through the spot where Lucrezia had placed the rose. Simone draws his dagger and advances threateningly towards the woman, who, standing motionless, invites him to strike. He is spell-bound by her beauty, and, each confessing that neither had loved till now, he takes her in his arms. Mr George Alexander has of late been identified with characters of more sinister import than the modern lover, and he played with rare force and calm ferocity the part of Simone. Miss Lilian Braithwaite made a pathetically beautiful figure of the wife; Miss Margaret Bussé was a frivolous Gianetta; and Mr Herbert Dansey did all that was possible with the part of Luigi Bardo.

The most attractive item of the afternoon was the new one-act comic play, by Mr Malcolm Watson, entitled

"THE CONVERSION OF NAT STURGE."

The Bishop of Minterweir	Mr ARTHUR BOURCHIER
Nat Sturge	Mr WEBB DARLEIGH
Raddles	Mr WALTER PEARCE
Julia	Miss NANCY PRICE

There is merriment in every line of this piece, which should immediately find a place in a West-end evening programme, and the author, who was too busily engaged in the duties of secretaryship of the matinée to answer the enthusiastic call for him, may be heartily congratulated on his playful wit and exuberant fun. Nat Sturge is engaged at the rising of the curtain in burgling the Bishop of Minterweir's residence, and is anxious to secure £500 in specie which is locked in a safe. Other cracksmen have tried the crib but failed, but Nat regards these workers as "bloomin' amatoors" who don't know their business. His mate and apprentice, Raddles, in a fit of abstraction has dropped the jemmy, and is sent in search of it by "the master." Nat is busy at the safe, when he is disturbed by the shutting of the door of the library, which marks the entry of the bishop. His lordship is wearing his *habit de nuit*, and is as cool as if he was giving a charge to the clergymen of his diocese. He takes but little notice of Nat's revolver, pointing out to that astonished gentlemen the stupidity of bloodshed, and has a proposition to make. He will give Nat the bag of gold if he (the burglar) will marry his step-daughter—or, rather, his doorstep daughter—Julia, a foundling, who has been left to him as a legacy by his late wife. Julia has a craze for reforming bad characters, and is quite ready to try her influence on Nat. He is staggered, and his question, "Wot's yer game, guv'nor?" is characteristic. Eventually he decides for "seven years' hard," in preference to marrying Julia, and is allowed to depart a free man. Julia is certainly an oddity, and Miss Nancy Price's clever impersonation added considerably to her reputation as a comedienne. She did not hesitate to sacrifice completely her charming personality to the exigencies of the part. As the Bishop Mr Arthur Bourchier had a part after his own heart. He caught exactly the tone of cool, quiet determination that is an essential of the character, and evinced much sly humour. Mr Webb Darleigh's Nat had a grim humour that made it most effective, and the lingo of the cockney rough was very happily reproduced. Mr Walter Pearce played the part of Raddles in effective fashion. The play was admirably staged.

Previous to the representation of *Waterloo*, of which we have already spoken, Miss Julia Neilson sang a pretty coon song, and Miss Ada Reeve, who was at her very best, displayed her customary archness and command of humour in two songs, "Winnie What's-'er-name" and "Just her way." At the conclusion of the Conan Doyle play, Miss Marie Tempest sang that favourite lyric, "The Garden of Sleep," the verses of which, as we all know, were written by the bénéficiaire. There was no exaggeration or striving after effect in Miss Tempest's rendering, and she may be complimented upon the perfect simplicity of her singing. In her second number, "June," composed for the occasion by Mr Frank Lambert, she was encored. Mr Courtice Pounds rendered agreeably, "I'll sing thee songs of Araby;" Mdlle. Réjane, after a little amusing satire at the expense of hypnotic art, gave a funny burlesque imitation of the divine Sarah; and Mr George Grossmith at the piano divertingly explained the inconveniences incidental to a sensitive genius haunted by such an air as "Dolly Gray." Nearly at the end of the programme was played the third act of Mr Stephen Phillips's play,

"HEROD."

Herod	Mr TREE
Gadias	Mr S. A. COOKSON
Pheroras	Mr CECIL ROSE
A Priest	Mr J. FISHER WHITE
A Physician	Mr CHARLES FULTON
A Captain	Mr A. C. GRAIN
Envoy from Rome	Mr JULIAN L'ESTRANGE
Second Envoy	Mr J. B FRASER
Chief Artificer	Mr ERIC LESLIE
Servant	Mr FRANCIS CHAMIER
Cypros	Miss BATEMAN
Bathsheba	Miss ELIZABETH GILSON
Salome	Miss MARGARET HALSTAN

Admirers of Mr Tree, who had a great reception on his entrance as Herod, were once more able to study his fine rendering of the monarch of the Jews. Miss Bateman was again a pathetic figure as Cypros; Miss Margaret Halstan made a picturesque Salome; Mr S. A. Cookson distinguished himself as Gadias; Mr Charles Fulton was a dignified physician; and Mr Fisher White a reverend priest. The other parts were effectively handled. Sir Henry Irving's powerful interpretation of "The Dream of Eugene Aram," given by special request, immediately preceded Mr Forbes-Robertson's delivery of Mr Louis N. Parker's specially written sonnet, already quoted, which finished the matinée.

The front page of a specially designed programme was illustrated by the full-length portrait of Mr Clement Scott, in armour, with his head bared and a helmet hanging from his wrist. Resting from the fray, he holds a lance. Beneath the design is a quotation from *Richard III.*, "Now noble peers, the cause why we are met."

A number of pretty girls sold programmes at fancy prices, and it only remains to say that the success of the matinée proved to be as decisive financially as artistically. From the stage it was announced by Mr Malcolm Watson, whose untiring work as hon. secretary of the matinée should here be acknowledged, that the sum of £1,250—as a matter of fact, subsequent calculations showed it to be nearer £1,300—had been realised by the performance. From many quarters in the course of the afternoon came messages of sympathy and goodwill, one of these having been dispatched from New York by Mr Stephen Fiske, proprietor of the leading dramatic paper in that city. It ran as follows:—"Cordial sympathy from American journalists, managers, and actors.' The speaker added that Mr Scott, unhappily, was far too seriously ill to allow of his coming personally to express his gratitude for all that had been done on his behalf, but that Mr Scott's wish, he knew, would certainly be that his thanks should not remain unspoken.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

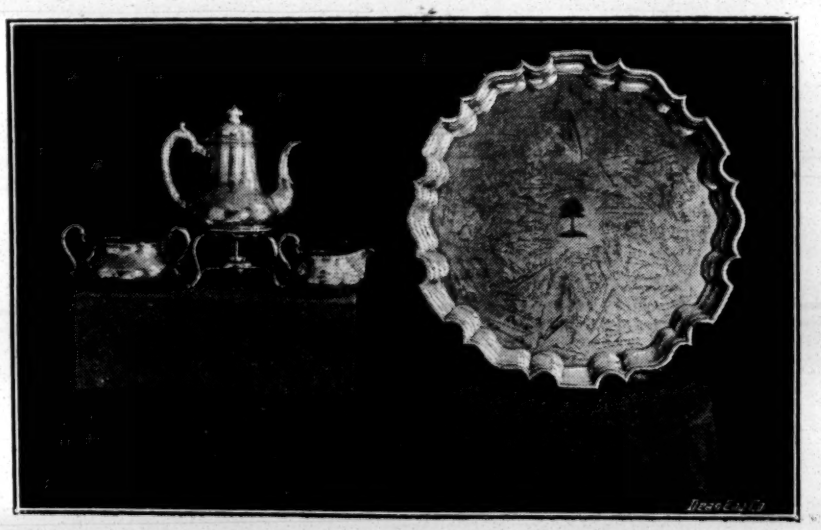
Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Annie Halford, actress—Saturday, June 25.
Maude Montague—Saturday, June 25.
Flo Varley, music hall artist—Saturday, June 25.
Sydney Paxton, actor—Saturday, June 25.
Evan Roland—Saturday, June 25.
J. G. Grahame, jun., actor—Saturday, June 25.
Iona Robertson, actress—Sunday, June 26.
Austin Boyd—Sunday, June 26.
George Walton—Sunday, June 26.
Edwin Dodds—Sunday, June 26.
Ben Nathan—Sunday, June 26.
Georgie Preston, serio—Monday, June 27.
Blanche Wyndham, actress—Monday, June 27.
Blanche Cavallero—Monday, June 27.
Ciss Smythson, music hall artiste—June 27.
Madge Carr, music hall artist—Tuesday, June 28.
Ethel Bracewell—Tuesday, June 28.
G. M. Polini—Tuesday, June 28.
G. W. Clarke—Tuesday, June 28.
W. H. Perrette, actor—Tuesday, June 28.
Slade Murray, music hall artist—June 28.
Hugh Dempsey, music hall artist—June 29.
Lena Gifford—Wednesday, June 29.
John Coates—Wednesday, June 29.
Charles Darrell—Wednesday, June 29.
Frank Albert, music hall artist—June 29.
Marie Dainton, actress—Thursday, June 30.
Rose Dearing, burlesque actress—June 30.
Tom M'Naughton, music hall artist—July 1.
Maud Elmore—Friday, July 1.
H. J. Worswick—Friday, July 1.

PRESENTATION TO MR. TREE.

At the close of the matinee performance of *Twelfth Night* at His Majesty's Theatre last Saturday a very pleasing little ceremony took place in the foyer of the house. It was no less than a presentation to Mr Tree intended to mark the conclusion of his seven years' management of His Majesty's Theatre. The subscribers to the testimonial were ladies and gentlemen who had been members of his company during the period mentioned. The presentation consisted of a massive silver tea and coffee service of the George the First period, each piece being engraved with Mr Tree's crest, and a handsome and massive silver salver, the centre of which bore the famous "tree" crest, surrounded by facsimile autograph signatures of eighty-six well-known theatrical people. These signatures, which were so arranged that several of them were easily recognisable from whatever position one looked at the salver, were nothing less than a masterpiece of the engraver's art; and Messrs Garrard and Company, the Crown jewellers, of Haymarket, are to be congratulated on the excellent way in which they have executed the work, the various pieces of plate forming an interesting souvenir of which Mr Tree may well be proud. The copying and cutting out on the silverware of so many autographs must have been a very tedious operation indeed, but it has been performed with commendable care and precision, due regard having been given to the peculiarities of the various styles of penmanship. Mr Lionel Brough, who acted as the spokesman of the party, begged Mr Tree to accept the gifts not only as a memento of his seven years' control of His Majesty's Theatre, but also as a token of the affection and esteem felt for him by those who, at one time or another, had worked under his banner. In acknowledging the presents, Mr Tree stated that he experienced the profoundest satisfaction and pleasure at the sight of so many friends around him. In the warmest terms he expressed his thanks for the generous impulse which had prompted so kindly an act, and said he should treasure the gifts among his most valued possessions. The agreeable function came to a termination with the toast of Mr Tree's health, which was enthusiastically drunk amid the singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow."

The following is a list in alphabetical order of the ladies and gentlemen whose names were inscribed on the salver:—Mr Charles Allan, Mr Oscar Asche, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Dorothea Baird, Mr J. D. Beveridge, Mr R. Henderson Bland, Mr Raymond Blathwayt, Miss Lily Brayton, Miss Sarah Brooke, Mr Lionel Brough, Miss Mary Brough, Mr Alfred Brydone, Mr Louis Calvert, Mr Murray Carson, Mr Francis Chamier, Mr O. B. Clarence, Miss Constance Collier, Mr C. F. Collings, Mr S. A. Cookson, Mr Compton Coutts, Mrs Crowe, Mr Henry Dana, Miss Frances Dillon, Miss Sydney Fairbrother, Miss Lettice Fairfax, Miss Helen Ferrers, Mr Edward Fielding, Miss Rosina Filippi, Mr Norman Forbes, Mr Charles Fulton, Mr Basil Gill, Miss Lily Hanbury, Mr Lyn Harding, Mr Gilbert Hare, Mr Robb Harwood, Mr William Haviland, Miss Maud Hildyard, Mr Nicholas Holthoir, Miss Maud Jeffries, Mr Henry Kemble, Mrs Kendal, Mr Cecil King, Mr Gerald Lawrence, Mr Eric Leslie, Mr Julian L'Estrange, Mr Harvey Long, Miss Ruth Mackay, Mr W. Angus M'Leod, Mr Maurice Mancini, Mr Edmund Maurice, Mr Louis Mercanton, Miss Evelyn Millard, Mr Frank Mills, Mr William Mollison, Miss Eva Moore, Mr Michael Morton, Mr Percy Nash, Miss Julia Neilson, Miss Olga Nethersole, Mr Reginald Ian Penny, Mr Courtice Pounds, Miss Nancy Price, Mr Charles Quartermaine, Mrs Cecil Raleigh, Mr E. M. Robson, Miss Kate Rorke, Mr Cecil Rose, Mr Herbert Ross, Mr Raymond Roze, Miss Mimi St. Cyr, Mr Adolph Schmidt, Mr C. W. Somerset, Mr Frank Stanmore, Mr Percival Stevens, Mr Richard Temple, Miss Ellen Terry, Mr Norman Tharp, Mr Allan Thomas, Mr Brandon Thomas, Miss Zeffie Tilbury, Mr H. W. Varna, Mr Charles Warner, Mr H. B. Warner, Mr J. Fisher Whyte, and Mr Alfred Wigley.



THE BEERBOHM TREE PRESENTATION.
COFFEE SERVICE AND SALVER.

MARY ANDERSON IN BELFAST.

Many years have elapsed since Miss Mary Anderson (Madame De Navarro) last appeared in Belfast, and when it was announced that she had been kind enough to leave her retirement and, in the cause of charity, travel to Belfast to appear in a dramatic recital, it is little wonder that the great Ulster Hall in that City was crowded. The audience included the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, and when Miss Anderson appeared she had quite an ovation. Her unequalled talent was never more conspicuous than in the rôles she portrayed. In the Balcony scene from *Romeo and Juliet*, without any stage scenery or accessories, her graceful rendering of the beautiful lines roused the audience to enthusiasm. Then in the reading of the Murder scene from *Macbeth* Miss Anderson's powerful acting completely thrilled them, and at the close of her recital there was a remarkable demonstration. Miss Anderson also sang several songs, and was the recipient of several exquisite bouquets, including a handsome basket composed of liberty roses. Mr William Ludwig, late of the Carl Rosa opera company, also took part in the performance, giving "Off to Philadelphia" and other ballads with great effect. Other artists who appeared were Mr Clyde Twelvetrees, Miss Florence Ludwig, Miss Winifred Rose Ludwig, Miss Bridie M'Glade, a local violinist; Miss E. M'Elroy, and Mr E. M'Elroy, the latter a basso of power. Herr Louis Werner acted as conductor with skill. Mr Louis King was the courteous manager for Miss Anderson, and the entire arrangements, which were very satisfactory, reflect much credit on him.

AT the performance of the *Alcestis* by the boys of Bradfield College on Tuesday the representative of Hercules wore a lion-skin which was a present from Lobengular, and had been lent for the occasion by the celebrated lion hunter, Mr Selous.

"LA SORCIÈRE."

Drama, in Five Acts, by Victorien Sardou, Played for the First time in England at His Majesty's Theatre, on June 20.

Zoraya	Madame SARAH BERNHARDT
Manuela	Madame BLANCHE DUFRENE
Afrida	Madame PATRY
Zaguir	Madame SEYLOR
Dona Serafina	Madame KERWICH
Juana	Madame MAGDA
Aisha	Madame GERMAIN
Dona Rufina	Madame BOULANGER
Dona Sirena	Madame CERDA
Fatoum	Madame SIMONSON
Une Paysanne	Madame BARDY
Une Dame	Madame ALLIONS
Une Paysanne	Madame DAULTRY
Une Dame	Madame HENRIEZ
Don Ximénès	M. DE MAX
Don Enrique Palacios	M. DECOEUR
Cléofas	M. CHAMEROY
Cardenos	M. GERVAL
Calabacas	M. CRALIS
Oliviera	M. DENEUBOURG
Ramiro	M. LAURENT
Padilla	M. KRAUSS
Ibarra	M. DARA
Farez	M. CAUROY
Don Cristobal	M. GUIDE
Don Rioubos	M. PUYLAGARDE
D'Anguilar	M. PIRON
Gil Andrés	M. GERMAIN

M. Sardou's adroit habit of manipulating "root ideas" has again been shown in his drama *La Sorière*, which was performed for the first time in London at His Majesty's Theatre on Monday. The pivot is that of the latter part of Walter Scott's "Ivanhoe." We all remember how Rebecca's skill in medicine is distorted into witchcraft, and how she is accused by the Knights Templars of using sorcery to ensnare Sir Brian De Bois-Guilbert. In the novel, Sir Brian is base enough to act as the Champion of the semi-religious body to which he belongs, and dies "the victim of his contending passions." But Sardou's play is more "modern," up-to-date, and scientific. Zoraya, the Moorish sorceress of the piece, is simply a hypnotist living before mesmerism was understood. In the first act we see her gathering herbs at night-time. Captain Enrique De Palacois, who is sent to arrest her as a witch, falls in love with her instead, although he is engaged to be married to Juana, the daughter of the Governor of Toledo. Zoraya, ignorant that Juana is her rival, "medicines" her to a healing sleep with mesmeric "passes." When she discovers that Enrique is about to be married to Juana, the "sorceress" enters the governor's palace by stealth, gets into the bridal chamber, hypnotises the bride and leaves her sleeping, casts a spell of some sort over the bridegroom, and then runs away with him in the darkness. They are pursued and captured.

Then comes the harrowing fourth act, for which practically all that has preceded it has been preparatory. The scene is an arched dungeon, wherein is held a tribunal of the Holy Inquisition. Here Zoraya is examined, with familiars and instruments of torture close at hand. She is accused of bewitching De Palacios. If she admits that she is a sorceress, she will save Enrique, whom the judges will consider to have been the irresponsible victim of her magic. Zoraya consequently declares her guilt, despite Enrique's assertions of her innocence. In the last act, in a public square outside the Cathedral of Toledo, we see all the terrible preparations for her execution. She goes to the stake, happy in the thought that her lover has been saved by her self-sacrifice. But the Governor's daughter is still in a trance; and he offers Zoraya pardon if she will awaken Juana. The "sorceress" does so; but the mob, not to be balked of its prey, seizes the lovers, who to shorten their agony take poison, and die in each other's arms.

As Mephistopheles remarks, it is no use of being a "milk-and-water-devil;" and a melodrama, even in blank verse, must be continuously sensational. "Instead of which" *La Sorcière*, except in parts, is mild, not to say tedious. The earlier acts drag decidedly. There is neither the deep dramatic sincerity nor the violent action which should compensate for its absence. Madame Bernhardt never played better. Her delivery, her gestures, and her deportment were of the very finest quality. But she could do little with the decidedly "thin" character of Zorayda until the fourth act, when she warmed up to a considerable degree, though not to the red-hot intensity which we associate with—almost expect from—the actress in her *tours de force*. M. De Max had some excellent opportunities as Don Ximénés, and took advantage of them to "put in" some very powerful acting. M. Decoeur played Don Enrique Palacios in bold, manly, and spirited style; and the minor personages were all ably represented. Madame Bernhardt had an enthusiastic reception on her appearance; but her "sorceress," to those who have seen her in stronger parts, was somewhat disappointing.

NEW EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, June 20, the Farce, in Three Acts, by Hugh Morton, entitled "GLITTERING GLORIA."

Mr Frank Curzon's company is here this week in the farce *Glittering Gloria*, which is exceedingly funny. Mr John Campbell is well cast as the resolute, though easy-going, Jack James; Mr W. Champney as Archie Toddleby keeps the audience in roars of laughter by his eccentricities and droll sayings; Mr Haughton M'Aulay makes a typical rural solicitor; Mr R. S. Trelawney makes a boisterous, bloodthirsty Colonel Gallegher from Texas; Mr Gerald Clark is a comical representative of the dyspeptic Algernon Entwistle; Mr F. Bentley and Mr Percy Mirzar as Samuel Slopton and Robert Shieve sustain their respective parts with care and efficiency; Mr Charles Williams as the love-sick Mr Griddletop is particularly diverting; Miss Lillian Williams makes an attractive Mrs Jack James; the fascinating Miss Eva Bertram plays Gloria Grant with chic and piquancy; and Miss Winifred Glynn as Dorothy Kenworthy is all that can be desired. Miss Mary Bune deserves a word of praise as Sarah.

AT the usual weekly meeting of the council, held last Tuesday, Hubert J. De B. Wooldridge, Esq., L.D.S, 502, High-road, Chiswick, and Julius M. Bernstein, Esq., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., 36A, Lincoln's-inn-fields, were elected as honorary medical officers to the Actors' Association; and Hilda L. B. Wright was nominated for election as a member of the Association. The council accepted with many thanks the presentation by Mr Lawrence Grant of several framed engravings for the decoration of the smoking-room. The honorary solicitors reported they had advised several members, and were requested to make claims on behalf of others. A former member was reinstated. Miss Elizabeth Kirby and Messrs A. E. Drinkwater, M. R. Morand, and Hubert Willis were elected as members of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

"DISHONOURED."

Romantic and Military Drama, in a Prologue and Four Acts, by Arthur St. John, Produced for the First time in Town on Monday, June 20, at the West London Theatre.

CHARACTERS IN PROLOGUE.

Capt. Philip Cunningham	Mr PERCY BALLARD
Lieut. Cecil Peyntland	Mr WILLIAM BRADFORD
Lieut. Adolphus Cholmondeley	Mr REGINALD BROWN
Azurkim	Mr FRANK FULLER
Jem Stokes	Mr JACK BIGWOOD
Mike Farthing	Mr CECIL MORAND
Azeemah	Miss MARION MAYNE

CHARACTERS IN THE DRAMA.

Philip Cunningham	Mr PERCY BALLARD
Sir William Cunningham	Mr FRANK STUART
Capt. Peyntland	Mr WILLIAM BRADFORD
Capt. Cholmondeley	Mr REGINALD BROWN
Lieut.-Col. Horton	Mr J. FERNE
Stokes	Mr A. W. THOMPSON
Jem Stokes	Mr JACK BIGWOOD
Mike Farthing	Mr CECIL MORAND
Azurkim	Mr FRANK FULLER
Nejrhur	Mr S. GORDON
Sergt. Lister	Mr A. W. THOMPSON
Jeremiah Jones	Mr H. VICTORE
Bill Clanger	Mr A. T. YATES
Corporal of the Guard	Mr G. GIBSON
Mhooleb Khan	Mr VICTOR HERNE
Sybil	Miss VIOLET CRAUFURD
Lady Cunningham	Miss BELLE RUSSELL
Ann Maria	Miss MARION MAYNE
Mrs Stubbs	Mrs THOMPSON
Katie Stubbs	Miss ALLEN
Leslie Maynard	Miss WINIFRED STUART

The above drama, which is largely made up of military incidents, has during the week been delighting the Maryboners who frequent Mr William Bailey's house, and the hairbreadth escapes by flood and field that are the fortune of the hero have caused much excitement. The piece was produced nearly eight years ago, on Aug. 3, 1896, at the Theatre Royal, Macclesfield, with Mr Arthur St. John, the author, in the rôle of Philip Cunningham, but we are given to understand that this is its first visit to the metropolis. The prologue opens in a hill station on the north-western frontier of India. A small band of soldiers, under Lieut. Philip Cunningham, holds an outpost, and fever is raging among them. The temple of Vishnu is close by, and the villain, Lieut. Cecil Peyntland, plans the abduction of Azeemah, a girl of high caste, who spends a night of vigil before a shrine in the temple. She is decoyed away and chloroformed by Peyntland, assisted by another rascal—a private soldier named Mike Farthing. Azeemah, preferring death to dishonour, stabs herself; but before dying manages to trace the letters C. P. in her blood. Peyntland endeavours to fix upon Cunningham, his cousin, the crime of murder, and, a night attack being expected, prevails upon the revengeful Hindoo, Azurkim, to drug Cunningham's wine, and by this device the hero is branded with disgrace through being drunk while on duty. In the first act, the scene of which is Cunningham Towers, Philip informs his father, in a pathetic scene, of his dishonour, and the old man stoutly demands his son's sword. Later on Philip rejoins the army under a false name, and in act three we again meet him as a trooper in his old regiment, of which his father is now colonel. An opportunity offers, and Philip volunteers for the dangerous duty of blowing up the enemy's magazine. He is again betrayed by the black-hearted Peyntland into the hands of the enemy; but, breaking his bonds, he fires his revolver into a barrel of powder. The consequent explosion and wreck of the magazine form the sensation of the piece. When the last act opens Philip is being mourned as dead; but is miraculously preserved, and restored to the arms of Leslie Maynard, his betrothed. Philip exposes the malignant career of Peyntland, who meets with his death at the hands of Azurkim, the Hindoo, driving a dagger into his false heart.

This is a brief summary of a drama that is full of interesting detail, and which has no lack of variety or incident. In one of the acts a short variety entertainment is given, and it seems that Miss Winifred Stuart's company, to which the interpretation of the drama is entrusted, includes among its ranks vocalists capable of doing justice to a comic song. Mr Jack Bigwood, for instance, is heard to considerable advantage when he sings "He lost one eye looking for work"—an ower true tale of the genus loafer, and a droll one to boot. Mr Bigwood, who has hereditary ability, learnt his business at the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, and appears with no little success as Jem Stokes, who has some well-conceived and lively comedy scenes with Ann Maria, his sweetheart, a part that is assigned to Miss Marion Mayne. This young actress plays her important rôle with light-hearted gaiety and sparkle, but sounds a deeper note of sentiment in the prologue in the part of the Hindoo girl Azeemah. In the variety entertainment referred to she sings "Only a penny," a song made extremely popular by the favourite comedienne Miss Ada Reeve. Mr Cecil Morand, too, has singing responsibilities, and for the nonce throws off his sinister mask as the minor villain, Mike Farthing, to give "Ada's Lovers," a polyglot song that brings down the house. "Ada," it appears, has a choice assortment of suitors—French, German, Milesian, Scotch, American, and others. As the hero, Philip Cunningham, Mr Percy Ballard emphasises with much force and dignity the chagrin and despair of the young soldier whose career is ruined by the unchecked malevolence of a brother officer, and the part of the uniformed evil-doer—a pretty specimen of the regimental martinet—is presented in a cool and callous manner by Mr William Bradford. Mr Frank Stuart puts considerable sternness into the part of the unforgiving father in the first act, and the scene of the veteran's reconciliation with his son is very effectively handled. Miss Winifred Stuart looks sweet in nurse's costume, and Leslie Maynard's staunchness and trust in the man of her choice are well accentuated by the actress. Lieutenant Adolphus Cholmondeley, a friend of the hero, is quite a sympathetic character in the hands of Mr Reginald Brown; there is a fine dignity about the rendering of Azurkim, a Hindoo, by Mr Frank Fuller; and the part of Stokes, Sir William's butler, is capably filled by Mr A. W. Thompson. Sybil, the ward of Sir William, is gracefully played by Miss Violet Craufurd; the smaller rôles of Mrs Stubbs and Katie Stubbs are adequately treated by Mrs Thompson and Miss Allen respectively; and Messrs S. Gordon, A. W. Thompson, H. Victore, A. T. Yates, G. Gibson, Victor Herne, and Miss Belle Russell add to the success.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

On Thursday the concert of the Royal College commenced with Beethoven's string quartet in E flat, Op. 74, in which Mr Herbert Kinze, Miss Violet Vivian, Mr Frank Bridge, and Mr Ivor James were to be credited with a careful and artistic rendering of the work, the most successful portion being the Presto and Allegretto, with variations. Miss Elsie Sing displayed considerable ability in Chopin's Scherzo in E minor. Songs by Brahms and Rachmaninoff were given with much effect by Mr Ben Ivor Davies. Grieg's sonata for 'cello and pianoforte, in A minor, Op. 36, was played by Miss Densham and Miss Olive Blume, the andante molto tranquillo making a great impression. A song called "Secrecy," by H. Wolf, was well rendered by Miss Clara Smith, and songs by Tschaikowsky and Wagner employed the talent of Miss Agnes Coates. The concert concluded with the Trio by Brahms in E flat, Op. 40, for piano, violin, and 'cello, performed in a spirited manner by Miss Helen Boyd and Messrs Kinze and Ivor James. There was, as usual, a large audience, but the concert was somewhat too long, and the bulk of the visitors left early in consequence.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, JUNE 23.—*The Toreador* has not proved a colossal success, but it was well received, and the efficient cast of the Moulin Rouge did full justice to the work.

THE theatrical season is at an end, and, as usual, the "auditions" have begun. That is to say, that every afternoon, from two to six, a long string of candidates file into the manager's rooms, and file out again dejected and miserable. I often asked myself why this meaningless farce is repeated year after year. An old manager, who has been in harness some thirty years, assured me that, with the exception of half a-dozen artists of Paris renown, nobody ever heard of these candidates. And yet none of them are beginners; in fact, most of them know their work thoroughly. But the trouble is that they are members of provincial companies, anxious to produce themselves in the Capital. And it appears strange that they will never grasp the fact that no Paris manager would dream of engaging any of them under these conditions. If the prettiest and smartest little provincial star were to say, "I was first 'soubrette' in Nantes, in Marseille, or in Bordeaux," her chances of being engaged would be virtually nil. It is really time to put an end to this cruel sport

AT the Odéon, M. Ginisty has re-engaged the charming young actress, Mdlle. Félyne, and has also signed an engagement with Mdlle. De Miramon.

M. ALFRED CAPUS' new four-act comedy, *Notre Jeunesse*, is now terminated, and will be read next week by M. Jules Claretie.

THE Theatre Déjazet has also closed its doors, and will reopen in September with *C'est beau, mais c'est—trust.* Mdlle. Madeleine Marsay, who created the principal rôle therein, has been engaged by M. Rolle.

THE rehearsals have begun at the Trocadero of Péladan's *Sémiramis*, to be produced in the Arena at Nimes on July 24. The fine cast will comprise M. Albert Lambert *fils* and Madame Segond-Weber (the well-known artists of the Comédie Française), and MM. Darival, Darmon, and Robert Liter.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

Mr Waddington Cooke, the esteemed professor of the Guildhall School, gave a concert in the practice room on the 17th inst., when his pupils were heard to great advantage. Miss Ethel Mercer played Schumann's Symphonic Studies with excellent taste and adequate brilliancy and decision. Miss Kate Richards did herself credit in a solo by the above composer, and Miss Edith Taylor and Miss Isa Seimmon did well in pieces of Chopin. Schült's charming "Etude Mignonne" enabled Mr G. H. Swaine to win hearty applause, and all the instrumental performers deserved great praise. The vocal students were equally good. Miss Beatrice Jeffreys and Miss Constance Flint particularly distinguished themselves in vocal pieces by Mozart and Mdlle. Chaminade.

"REMORSE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In reference to your letter re my forthcoming production of *Remorse* it is apparent that your correspondent, Mr Gustav Pearlson, who, through his agents, has written music for my productions, has lost sight of the fact that under the pseudonym of Ivan Lerkoff, which I was compelled to assume, it was myself who scored the success referred to in the character of Convict 37, playing in the Yiddish dialect. I only trust that my English adaptation will be one half as successful and lucrative. Yours faithfully,

JOHN KOFFLER REYNOLDS
(Ivan Lerkoff),

City Palace of Varieties, Leeds, June 21.

THE King and Queen were present at His Majesty's Theatre on Monday night, and witnessed the first performance of Madame Sarah Bernhardt in *La Sorcière*.—The Prince of Wales, Princess Victor Hohenlohe, and Countess Fedore Gleichen were present at the performance of *Hélène* and *La Navarraise* at the Royal Opera, Covent-garden, on Monday.

A PUBLIC meeting of musical composers, authors, singers, publishers, and all interested directly or indirectly in musical copyright is called for the evening of July 4, at eight o'clock, at the Queen's Hall, to appeal to the Government to afford facilities this session for the passing of the Musical Copyright Bill, which has been prevented so far from becoming an Act of Parliament, owing to the obstructive tactics of the member for Mid-Lanarkshire, Mr James Caldwell. Mr Mount, M.P., Mr Galloway, M.P., Mr Malcolm, M.P., and other prominent members of Parliament will be present, and it is hoped that the musical profession will make a strenuous effort to attend in its thousands to accord full support to the movement.

A COMMITTEE meeting of the Touring Managers' Association will be held at 23, Bedford-street, Strand, on Friday, July 1, at 12 30 o'clock.

AT the weekly meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday a report was received from the Theatres and Music Halls Committee stating that they had considered plans, submitted by Messrs Vaughan, Brown, and Co., of the fire-resisting curtain proposed to be fixed at St. George's Hall, Langham-place. They recommended "That Messrs Vaughan, Brown, and Co. be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the two plans submitted by them, provided the following conditions be complied with:—(1) That the framing of the curtain be altered so that the ties radiate from the two points at which the curtain is suspended, and that the curtain be properly braced to prevent bulging. (2) That the asbestos cloth of the curtain be wire woven. (3) That the gun-metal wheels at the sides of the curtain be so arranged as to leave no space whereby smoke could pass into the auditorium. (4). That the releasing gear of the sprinkler be duplicated and placed in close proximity to, but independent of, that of the curtain; that both sets be suitably protected, and that indicating plates be provided. (5) That the sprinkler be furnished with stop and drain cocks, the former to be placed under seal. (6) That the words 'safety curtain' be exhibited on the curtain in letters sufficiently large to be read from all parts of the auditorium." The recommendation was adopted.

AT Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show at Ilford on Tuesday, a number of the ladies appearing in *The Prince of Pilsen* at the Shaftesbury Theatre paid the cowboys a surprise visit. The fair Americans took a ride in the "Deadwood Coach," and five of them kissed the silver-haired Colonel Cody with a filial affection resembling that of the young women at Mr Wardle's towards Mr Pickwick. The Indians howled with delight at the spectacle, and the cowboys and Mexicans cheered.

IN the course of evidence given last week to the Manchester Watch Committee by a number of gentlemen who opposed the application for the dramatic licence by Mr Stoll, one of the witnesses, a clergyman, said he objected to all theatres and music halls. He had never been in one. All theatres were bad. He only spoke from hearsay. He had been told the performances were improper. A theatre was a wicked place. Plays were performed not fit for Christian men and women. He had never seen any himself. Comment on such statements is quite unnecessary.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT-GARDEN.

On Monday, June 20, First Production in England of M. C. Saint-Saëns' One-act Opera, entitled

HELENE.

Hélène	Madame MELBA
Vénus	Miss E. PARKINA
Pallas	Madame KIRKBY LUNN
Pâris	M. DALMORES

On Monday night a new opera, in one act, by M. Saint-Saëns, called *Hélène*, was produced at the Royal Opera in presence of a crowded and distinguished audience, headed by the Princess of Wales, Princess Victor Hohenlohe, and Countess Feodora Gleichen. Dr. Saint-Saëns displayed great gifts at a very early age, and his works in every musical department include a grand opera, chamber music of the finest quality, symphonies, and symphonic poems, among them "Le Rouet d'Omphale," "The Marche Heroique," &c. Latterly Dr. Saint-Saëns has been influenced by the Parisian craze for reviving the classic legends of Greece, and *Hélène*, which the composer calls "a lyrical poem in six tableaux," belongs to this class of subject. Its creator has written beautiful works. His grand opera, *Henry the Eighth*, was an excellent specimen of its kind. His chamber compositions are sometimes worthy of the classical masters; his organ and pianoforte pieces are gems, beloved by all musicians and admired by all amateurs. Yet the truth is that *Hélène* is disappointing.

After a prelude we see the palace of King Menelaus and hear sounds of festivity. The scene quickly changes, and Helen is seen wandering by the sea, soon to be joined by Paris, who declares his passion in no measured accents. Helen is agitated, but the more she is disturbed by her guilty love the more eagerly does Paris plead. Helen is on the point of seeking refuge in death when the goddess Venus appears with her rosy nymphs, and severely rebukes the heroine, who, after the Goddess disappears, yields to her lover and confesses she loves him better than the King. Still hesitating, she calls upon Jupiter, who replies in thunders, and Pallas Athene is seen in the clouds with a pictorial vision anticipating the burning of Troy. But the lovers have escaped, and the curtain falls as we see their vessel departing. This libretto, feeble and without a spark of inspiration, has been set to music equally lacking in beautiful or even graceful passages. Madame Melba exerted herself bravely as the heroine, but all to no purpose, the only portion of the work having any charm falling to Miss Parkina, who sang extremely well. So also did our native vocalist, Madame Kirkby Lunn, in music unworthy of her fine talents and lovely voice. M. Dalmores also displayed great ability as Paris, and sang better than usual, while M. Messager, the manager, for once took up the bâton and conducted the work with great spirit. Never has the management done more for any opera. The scenery was simply splendid. The second scene, where the perplexed heroine wanders by the sea, is extremely fine. Mr Harry Brooke, the artist, has painted a calm sea in the most realistic manner. The waves come and go beneath the moonlight with glimmer and gloom as they break upon the shore. By ingenious mechanism they reproduce the actual aspect of nature in quite an astonishing manner. The melodramatic *La Navarraise* followed, with Madame De Nuovina as the heroine. The lady was seen at Covent-garden before. She gave due emphasis to the military scenes. Herr Lohse conducted.

On Wednesday *Rigoletto* was performed with a new tenor, Signor Dani, in the part of the Duke, and a new Maddalena in the person of Mdlle. Frascani. Both were successful. Indeed, the Royal Opera has latterly been fortunate in introducing new vocalists, a recent new-comer, Mdlle. Selma Kurz, being much admired as Gilda, even after so famous a representative as Madame Melba. Signor Dani had a favourable reception from the first, and improved later in the opera, his singing in the third act being excellent. Without being a robust tenor, the quality of his voice and his refined style will make him welcome. Mdlle. Frascani as Maddalena also displayed good qualities in her dramatic and vocal rendering of the character. The famous quartet, "Un di si ben," aroused the enthusiasm of the audience. *Carmen*, with Madame Calvé, is announced for Saturday.

THE American play *A Noble Brother* is the attraction at the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, this week. Mr Charles Carte as Jerry the Tramp, a part he has played over 1,800 times, is excellent. He has a capital song in "How they asked papa." Miss Doris Brookes is pleasing as Nana Leigh; Miss Mabel Kessler does well as Rosie Rapid, her musical specialities being favourably received. Mr L. Maccam scores in the part of Colonel Richard Leigh, and Miss Adele Liddon as the wife deserves a word of praise. Mr Kenneth Smith as Henry Travers, and Mr J. A. Wilson as Jack Elsworth do commendable work.

MR MEYER, business manager for the French season at the Avenue Theatre, wishes us to state that Mr J. W. Mathews was Mr C. Frohman's representative at Wyndham's Theatre during the run of *Little Mary*, and Mr Meyer was assisting Mr Mathews.

THE lessees of the Theatre Royal, South Shields, Messrs J. and F. Coulson, are to be congratulated on their magnificent new act-drop, which is the work of Mr Miller, their scenic artist. It represents a fine landscape surrounded by beautiful drapery and medallions containing Shakespearian illustrations.

THE King and Queen and Prince John of Glucksburg were present at the performance of *Aida* at the Royal Opera, Covent-garden, on Tuesday. On the same evening the Duchess of Saxe-Coburg and suite witnessed the performances of *Op o' Me Thumb* and *Saturday to Monday* at the St. James's Theatre.

AT Clerkenwell Police-court on Wednesday James Frederick Willets, of Clarendon-road, Walthamstow, was summoned by Edward Briebach, on behalf of the Musical Copyright Association, to show cause why certain pirated copies of music, seized at Red Lion-yard, Warner-street, Clerkenwell, should not be destroyed. Mr Rutland prosecuted, and Mr Metcalf appeared for the defendant, who was stated to be too ill to attend. Mr Rutland said that 152,305 copies of pirated music were seized at the premises in question on June 8. On an order obtained at this court by Mr Briebach these were taken to Gray's-inn-road Police-station. Principally the music comprised copies of songs, marches, and operatic selections published by Messrs Francis and Day, Boosey, Chappell and Co., and Sheard. Mr Metcalf said his client was not the owner of the music, and did not mind what became of it. Mr D'Eyncourt ordered the destruction of the music, with £15 costs.

THE death is announced of Professor Norris, one of the oldest exponents of the magic art, who passed away at his residence, 3, Anerley-grove, Upper Norwood, on June 14, at the advanced age of eighty-one years.

MR W. F. FRAME, the popular Scot, finishes his successful run on the Moss circuit to-day, and starts his own vaudeville tour at Saltcoats on Monday, Aug. 1.—Mr Frank Coyle, now at the Queen's Theatre, Leeds, has been retained by Mr Ralph Pringle for another week, and is to be given a grand complimentary benefit on Friday next.—The Harvey Boys return to town on Monday after a successful ten weeks on the Barrasford tour.

THE many friends of Mr Charles Douglas Stuart will be sorry to hear that he has been laid up with a slight indisposition. We wish him a speedy recovery.

ON THE ROAD, JUNE 27.

ARMADALE REPERTOIRE.—Q. T., Swindon.
AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES.—Londesbro' T, Scarborough.
BEAUTIFUL FIEND.—Grand Theatre, Newcastle.
BIGAMY.—Royal Theatre, Jarrow.
BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH.—Dalston Theatre.
CHRISTIAN.—Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe.
CONSCRIPT.—Palace, Newcastle.
DAN THE RAKE.—Royalty, Barrow.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Marina, Lowestoft.
DISHONOURED.—Surrey Theatre.
FATAL FORTUNE.—Lyceum, Sheffield.
FIENDS OF LONDON.—Globe Theatre, Deal.
FIGHT FOR LIFE.—Grand Theatre, Nottingham.
FOR THE WOMAN HE LOVES.—Lyceum T., Eccles.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS.—Borough Theatre, Stratford.
HER FATAL PAST.—T. R, Stockport.
HERO OF THE FLAG.—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—West London Theatre.
HIS MAJESTY'S GUESTS (N.).—St. Helens.
HOT NIGHT.—Royalty, Glasgow.
I DEFY THE WORLD.—R. T., Morecambe.
IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND.—Q. T., Manchester.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Kilworth Camp.
LADY OF OSTEND.—Theatre Royal, Plymouth.
LAUGHTER-LAND.—Pleasure Gardens, Folkestone.
LIFE AT STAKE.—Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.
LIFE'S STORY.—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
LITTLE MISS NOBODY.—Harrogate and Buxton.
LONDON FIREMAN.—Alexandra, Sheffield.
MAN TO MAN.—Theatre Royal, Aldershot.
MANXMAN.—Victoria Theatre, Broughton.
MARRIAGE OF VENGEANCE.—Grand T., Walsall.
MOCKERY OF MARRIAGE.—Grand J., Manchester.
NAPOLEON THE GREAT.—Queen's Theatre, Keighley.
NEW HOUSEMAID.—Theatre Royal, Plymouth.
OTTO THE OUTCAST.—T. R., Stratford.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Coronet Theatre.
REVANGE.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
ROYAL DIVORCE (KELLY) (N.).—P. P., Brighton.
ROYAL DIVORCE (KELLY) (S.).—O. H., Blackpool.
SAVED FROM THE SEA.—Grand, Swansea.
SHADOWS OF A GREAT CITY.—T. R, Ilkeston.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—Pier Pavilion, Southend.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—T. R., Dewsbury.
SINS OF A CITY.—King's Theatre, Nottingham.
STILL ALARM.—Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.
STOLEN BIRTHRIGHT.—Theatre Royal, Rotherham.
TRAITOR PRINCE.—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
TRIP TO CHINATOWN.—Grand, Southampton.
TRIUMPH OF TRUTH.—Theatre Royal, Scarborough.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (HARRINGTON).—G. T., Derby.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (TULLY).—T. R, Bristol.
WARNER, GRACE.—G. T., Blackpool.
WHAT A WOMAN DID.—Theatre Royal, Chatham.
WHEN THE LIGHTS ARE LOW.—G. T., Hanley.
WOMAN OF PLEASURE.—Crown Theatre, Peckham.
WORLD'S DESIRE.—Empire, Oldham.
ZAZA.—Empire Theatre, Southend.
10·30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at any of Smith and Sons' bookstalls throughout the provinces.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

SEUL.—June 23, Mrs Jean Seul presented her husband with a fine, strong, and healthy son on Thursday morning. Both progressing favourably.

MARRIAGES.

SILVER WEDDING.

MARLOW—ADAMS.—June 23, 1879, at St. Mary's, Lambeth, Fred Marlow, comedian, to Emily Adams, vocal comedienne. Hats off to the little Cockney.

DEATHS.

KELLY.—June 23, at Bristol, Pennsylvania, Mrs K. B. Kelly (mother of W. W. Kelly), aged seventy-eight.

MATTHEWS.—June 21, at Finchley, Thomas Frederick, of Brothers Matthews, son of the late Harry Matthews, C. C. C. Minstrels, aged twenty-six.

NORRIS.—June 14, at his residence, 3, Anerley-grove, Upper Norwood, Professor Norris, conjuror, aged eighty-one.

QUAGLIENI.—June 23, aged seven weeks, Harry Edward Romeo Quaglieni, the infant son of Harry and Edie Quaglieni (Harry Missouri and Edie Maddison).

SAVAGE.—June 17, at his residence, 2, Sussex-place, Belfast, of acute pneumonia, Hugh Savage, of the Grand, Joy-street. Requiescat in pace.

IN MEMORIAM.

FREDERICKS.—In loving memory of Albert Fredericks (Stratford theatres), who departed this life June 26, 1901. R.I.P.

LAUCK.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband, Pierre H. Lauck, American gymnast, of St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.A. Died June 26, 1899. Interred at Lambeth Cemetery, Tooting, S.W. Never forgotten by his devoted wife, ROSE LAUCK.

FOR CONDOLENCE.

MRS JEAN STANLEY and family wish to thank all the kind friends of the late Mr Jean Stanley for their many expressions of sympathy in their sad bereavement, both by letter and telegram.

MR CHAS. HARTLEY has paid another visit this week to the Crystal Palace Theatre, where his excellent company has appeared with success in *Still Waters Run Deep*, and has done itself great credit. Mr Hartley played the part of Captain Hawkesley with genuine ability, the cool, sarcastic style of the adventurer being cleverly indicated. Mr William Trant's John Mildmay was an admirable impersonation, well-balanced, effective, and incisive. Miss Ethel Gordon Paull enacted Mrs Sternhold with keen expression and forcible characterisation. Mr Frederick Loyd made a droll Mr Potter, and Miss Constance Davey was winningly feminine as the silly Mrs Mildmay. The good old comedy was very favourably and cordially received.

MISS MARY AUSTIN, who was taken seriously ill during the performance at the Theatre Royal, Bradford, on the 13th inst., the opening night of her engagement at that theatre, is progressing favourably, and hopes to be able to leave for a health resort in the course of a few weeks.

AT St. James's Hall, on Tuesday evening, June 21, Miss Winifred Christie gave an orchestral concert to a fashionable and crowded house. The orchestra was composed of sixty-two performers, under the conductorship of Dr. F. H. Cowen. Miss Winifred Christie contributed to the evening's enjoyment by her brilliant execution of Beethoven's Concerto No. 4 in G major (Op. 58), Tschaikowsky's Concerto in B flat minor (Op. 23), and Liszt's Hungarian Fantasie, with orchestral accompaniments. In a rich contralto voice Miss Muriel Foster sang with deep feeling and expression Rossi's "Ah rendimi quel core" and Elgar's three Sea Pictures, (a) "In Haven," (b) "Where Corals Lie," and (c) "The Swimmer," which gained her a double recall. Dr. Cowen's "Butterfly Ball," as given by the orchestra, deserves a special word of praise.

ON Wednesday last at the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, Mr Lewis Gilbert produced for copyright purposes an original Russian drama entitled *A Traitor to the Czar*.

AT the West London Theatre on Friday, the 17th inst., was produced, for copyright purposes, a domestic drama entitled *The Battle of Life; or, the Other Woman*, written by Gus C. Livesey and Jno. Hy. Turner.

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—In your account of the Gaiety, Birmingham, in last week's *Era* your correspondent forgot to mention, yours faithfully, THE ANARTOS

"MY LORD FROM TOWN."

A Pastoral Play, in Two Acts,
Written by H. M. Paull,
Produced in the Gardens of Worcester College, Oxford, on Saturday, June 18th.

The Marquis of Stroode	Mr MATHESON LANG
Sir Digby Blunt	Mr ERIC BLIND
Squire Robin	Mr HOWARD BROOKE
Rebolledo	Mr SIDNEY GREENSTREET
Valentine	Mr F. DARCH
Lady Warrender	Miss MARION STIRLING
Lady Peggy	Miss HUTIN BRITTON
Phyllis	Miss SYBIL THORNDIKE
Marjorie	Miss JANIE PAYNE
Chispa	Miss DAISY ROBINSON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The situations in *My Lord from Town* are cleverly contrived, and hearty laughter and applause punctuated the whole performance. The dialogue is crisp and witty, and in this new departure of writing a pastoral play Mr Paull worthily maintains the great reputation he made as the writer of *The New Clown*. The sketch of the worn-out old town beau is a most clever and convincing one, and Lady Peggy and Phyllis stand out as bright and winsome creatures, whose acquaintance one is indeed only too happy to make and hopes to renew. *My Lord from Town* was specially written for Mr Ben Greet, and that astute manager is to be congratulated on having added to his répertoire of pastoral plays a new and decidedly attractive one, that should prove a big success wherever it is played. The incidental music, which is decidedly pretty and appropriate, has been specially written for the play by Mr H. A. J. Campbell, and includes a charming aubade, "O lady mine."

The plot of the play is as follows:—It is the birthday of Phyllis, a protegée of Lady Warrender. She is betrothed to Robin, a young country squire, who has, however, been attracted by the town graces of Lady Peggy (Lady Warrender's daughter), recently returned from a visit to London, where she was flattered by the admiration of a faded beau, the Marquis of Stroode. He has followed her to the country to make a formal declaration. Peggy's heart, however, is really given to her old admirer, Sir Digby, a country gentleman, who is intimidated by her newly acquired town airs. To encourage him, Lady Peggy promises to discard her hoops for a time and return to her simple country dress. Phyllis, on the other hand, wants to don hoops and powder her hair to show Robin she can be as fine a lady as Lady Peggy. When Lord Stroode arrives, he is smitten with the fresh charms of Phyllis, and, as she makes fun of him, he engages a gipsy to carry her off that he (Lord Stroode) may rescue her, and so gain her admiration. But his plot miscarries. He is not aware of the ladies' change of dress, and directs the gipsy to carry off Lady Peggy instead of Phyllis. Discovering his mistake, he hurries to her rescue, but trips and sprains his ankle. In the meantime Sir Digby has been searching for Lady Peggy, and discovers her with the gipsy, whom he captures. Naturally she rewards his courage with her hand, and Lord Stroode's trickery is exposed and himself held up to general ridicule.

Mr Matheson Lang gave a most delightful sketch of the old town beau; his make-up was excellent, and he might have stepped out of an old picture. He was consistently good through both acts. Mr Eric Blind made a capital lover, and one easily understood Lady Peggy's ultimately marrying him. Mr Howard Brook sang quite delightfully as Squire Robin, Mr Greenstreet made a capital gipsy, and Mr F. Darch gave a very finished and natural impersonation of Lord Stroode's valet. Miss Maria Stirling was an excellent Lady Warrender; Miss Hutin Britton made a charming and attractive Lady Peggy; Miss Sybil Thorndyke scored a big success as Phyllis; and Miss Daisy Robinson danced prettily and acted well as the gipsy girl. The country dances were very pretty and effective.

THE LATE BERT HASLEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I have received the following subscriptions on behalf of Miss Katie Leechman (Mrs Haslem), and beg to acknowledge the same with thanks:—

Yours faithfully, H. J. ALEC WALKER.
46, Claverton-street, Victoria, London, June 24.

	£	s.	d.
Mr Walter Pallant	5	5	0
Mr W. P. Taylor (S.A.)	5	0	0
Mr Arthur R. Ropes (Adrian Ross)	2	2	0
Mr Solly Barnato Joel (S.A.)	2	0	0
Mr J. S. Morrison (S.A.)	2	0	0
Mr W. Dettlebach (S.A.)	2	0	0
Mr Joe Lewis (S.A.)	2	0	0
Mr Henry Lowenfeld	1	1	0
Mr Sidney Jones	1	1	0
Mr Chas. Macdona	1	1	0
Mr H. Relph (Little Tich)	1	1	0
Mr Arthur Willey	1	1	0
Mr Geo. Rollit	1	1	0
Mr P. Tallerman (S.A.)	1	1	0
Mr Wilson Barret	1	0	0
Mr Cyril Maude	1	0	0
Anonymous	1	0	0
Messrs G. and C. Imeson	0	10	0
Mr Erskine Lang	0	10	0
A. N. G.	0	2	6

To judge by the attentive interest devoted to *The Broken Melody* at the Stratford Borough Theatre on Monday night, its powers of attraction remain undiminished with time. The large audience present applauded liberally the varying scenes and incidents of the piece, and waxed warm with enthusiasm over Mr Auguste Van Biene's expressive 'cello solos. Mr Van Biene's long familiarity with the part of Paul Borinski has ripened it into an admirable enactment of the character. Mr Arthur Bawtree plays with all the necessary reserve and perception as becomes the police spy General Ivanoff, and Mr T. P. Haynes adds a welcome touch of comedy by his bright portrayal of the aspiring agent, Dudley Mortimer. Mr Charles A. Morgan makes a capital Dixon. The Hon. Richard Spinacher is safely entrusted to Mr Henry Edwards; and Mr W. Baskerville-Benson plays convincingly as Dr. Magrath. Mr Deveraux Kunz admirably discharges the onerous duties of musical director and accompanist, and also plays the part of the French impresario Beaujour satisfactorily. Miss Lena Burnleigh makes a sympathetic and charming Mabel Borinski, and Miss Rose Ralph's refined method of portraying the scheming and deceitful Duchess De Verviers suits the part exactly and enables her to score a distinct success. Miss Morton does exceedingly well as the Hon. Mrs Spinacher; Miss Ida Chapman is a graceful Miss Carrat; and Miss Avis Graham plays appropriately as Mrs Dixon. The piece is now touring under the general management of Mr John A. Atkin. Owing to the indisposition of Mr Van Biene, who was unable to appear after Tuesday evening, Mr Harry Paulton and company opened on Thursday night with *Niobe*.

MISS BLANCHE ST. ALBANS AND MR J. LEICESTER JACKSON'S company is appearing this week at the Stratford Theatre Royal in *Her One Great Sin*, and the piece is being played to excellent business. Miss Blanche St. Albans plays with much emotion and intensity as Grace Warhurst, being especially good in the scene where Grace is bereft of sight, and her performance is always artistic. Mr Sam Arthur renders the character of Reuben Warhurst very popular by his capital acting; and Arnold Thornhill is made thoroughly despicable in the safe hands of Mr J. Leicester Jackson. Mr Charles E. Lambert is responsible for a well-defined sketch of Dan Handle, whose worthy spouse, Bet, is rendered sufficiently vicious by the ability of Miss Louie Walton. Mr Harold B. Ford ably acts Jack Hundle, and Mr F. Wright is excellent as Mr Benton. Mr Fred Hodson is amusing as Jerry Jumble; and in conjunction with Miss Nellie Lambert, very charming and vivacious as Nancy, supplies most of the comedy. Miss Phyllis Damian contributes a sympathetic embodiment of the flower seller, Charlie, and Miss Maudie Lambert's acting as Little Gracie is full of promise. Minor parts are carefully played.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 9.)

OLDHAM.

ROYAL.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr George Knowles.—Another clever company is here this week, including the Marvellous Pardoes, who are successful in an amusing pantomimic sketch *Uncle and the Cannibal*. Spring and Spring are smart as barrel-jumpers and acrobats, and are ably assisted by Mdlle. Rose Carlo, who gives an exhibition of muscular feats. Captain Devereaux's dogs submit a clever performance. The Martinettes are responsible for an amusing knockabout sketch, *The Mad Music Master*. The Henderson and Stanley Quartet are successful, combining comedy, music, dancing, and acrobatics. M'Cann gives a clever exhibition of roller skating. Bright and Bright, lady comediennes and dancers, are favourably received. Miss May Fallowfield is accorded due appreciation for her clever singing.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr Hulme.—Mr James Hare and company are here in a comedy-drama, *The Golden Chance*. Mr Hare does well as Stephen Clinton. Mr Tom Arkinstall is very effective as the money-lending Jew. Mr Hill Cremer as Edward St. Clair was deserving of praise. Mr John A. Stimson amuses the audience by his low comedy business. Miss Helen Waring as Mother Hawk, Miss Jenny Hallworth as Susan, Miss Irene Clifford as Una Zac, and Miss Agatha Halford as Lydia Hastings prove capable artists; while Mr Herbert M. King in a double rôle is a great success.

PAIGNTON.

PAVILION PIER.—Proprietors, the Devon Steamship Company, Limited.—The entertainments provided by Mr John A. Thomson, who has again undertaken the management at this popular place of amusement, are drawing excellent houses. This week *The Shadows of a Great City* is being played with great success. Mr Hamilton Deane gives a powerful rendering of the rôle of Tom Cooper; Mr J. Durford Geddes creditably acquits himself as George Benson; Mr Edwin Ling as Abel Nathan is well placed; and Mr Frank Medhurst as Jim Farren and Mr Edward W. Cudd as Arkwright leave nothing to be desired. Miss Margaret Watson, who is an old favourite, is charming as Nellie Standish, and Miss Maude Leslie-Cudd represents Biddy Roonan most effectively.

PAISLEY.

PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile.—During the last week of the season at this house *Called Back* is being performed by Mr Hugh Montgomery and his company. Gilbert Vaughan is faithfully depicted by Mr Montgomery, and to Macari an excellent rendering is given by Mr Cyril Austin-Lee. Miss Nellie Fletcher submits an intelligent and finished portraiture of Pauline March, Miss Louie Davis acquits herself well as Mary Vaughan, and Mrs Charles Wood as Betty O'Brien, and Miss Marie Harcourt as Priscilla Drew sustain with humour their respective parts.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr A. Carlton; Manager, Mr Louis Karpe.—For the last week of Mr Carlton's proprietorship and Mr Karpe's able management *The Saucy Sally*, played by Mr Lawrence Brough's company, occupies the boards, the proprietor himself acting the part of the hero with great success. Jack Buncombe is cleverly presented by Mr Percy Marshall; Mr Hewson Elliot looks and acts well as Evan Evans; Mr Edmund Gurney as the American shipbuilder and Mr Harry Collier as Cecile's uncle, Mr Dan F. Roe as the bonâ fide captain of the ship, with Mr Harold M. M'Kay as the weak-kneed waiter, are all efficient. Miss Dorothy Cacey as Cecile and Miss Kate Milford as Rosie Jocelyn, with Miss Amy Singleton as Mrs Lambert, the mother-in-law, play with verve and spirit. Miss Mildred Hodson as Jeannie Cecile's maid and Miss Daisy Cook as Hannah, a maid at Fairfield, both do well in small parts. The one-act comedietta *Margarit's Stratagem* is played as a curtain-raiser by Messrs Harry Collier and Harold M'Kay with Miss Daisy Cooke. On Friday Mr Carlton closed his connection with the theatre, and *The Saucy Sally* has left pleasant impressions as the last piece produced under his régime.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Brothers; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Field.—Miss Ada Colley provides the star turn here this week, and is more popular than ever. Others who contribute acceptable turns are Signor Pepi, a quick-change artiste, in an amusing sketch *Love Always Victorious;* Mr Chas. Collette proves a favourite in his musical patter-sketch *Hard Luck;* Miss Annie Laurie, comedienne, is entertaining; Kloof and Ramsey, comedy vocal entertainers; Brandon May, character sketch artiste; Rexford and Hunt, comedy duettists; Allan and Hart, song and dance artistes; and Frobel and Ruge, ariel comedians, each in their respective way meet with much approval.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Mr Chas. W. Poole, of myriorama fame, is paying a visit here, bringing with him a combine of myriorama, animated pictures, and refined concert party. The Panama comedy company provides at intervals some excellent contributions of songs and music, while the whole programme is enlivened by Messrs Poole's orchestra of solo performers, under the direction of Mr A. S. Morrell.

PROMENADE PIER.—Manager, Mr John Higson.—The Komedy Koncert Kompany is here this week. Mr Sammy Shields is a capital comedian; Miss Mabel Ashton is popular with her songs. Mr Oswald Williams, with his solos and in duet with Miss Cookson, proves very popular. The part-songs of the party are well received.

PORTSMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Bell.—This week we have here Mr Frank Wilson's company with *The Marriage of Kitty*. The comedy has been excellently played. Miss Vera Fordyce makes a charming Kitty; Mr Frank Wilson as Sir Reginald Belsize is irresistible as the irresolute baronet; Madame M. Semiano is well presented by Miss Phœbe Mercer; Mr Sydney Orton as the lawyer, John Travers, is quite successful; Norbury and Hampton are well played by Mr H. H. Young and Mr Naylor Grimson respectively; and Rosalie is effectively rendered by Miss Averil May. The curtain-raiser is the farce *Prince Bunkom*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr T. E. Agate.—*Queen of the Night* is the attraction here this week, presented by Mr James Stillwell and company. Miss Kathleen Coleman in the name-part gives a powerful impersonation. Mr James Stillwell is intense and convincing as Frank Featherstone, Phillip Stoneleigh is effectively played by Mr A. C. Campbell, and Mr Edgar Morgan as Adolphus Briskett and Miss Lizzie Lennox as Kitty White are responsible for some clever singing and dancing.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—At this house of amusement we have a strong programme this week. The first place must be given to Captain Woodward's seals and sea lions—a wonderful exhibition; Juno Salmo, "The Golden Mephisto," is another excellent turn; Emmie Ames, characteristic commedienne, is very fetching and sings admirably; the Sisters Reverl, ballad vocalists, are good; Katie Marsh, comedienne and mimic, meets with much approval; Harry Maynard, vocal comedian, is in great demand; and George Rapley, comedian; Stella Stanley, soubrette; and Harry Bancroft, actor-vocalist, complete the programme.

PRESTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Sawyer and Woodruff.—The variety company now here includes the Davis Trio, in a sensational cycling act; Marie Garnett, comedienne; George Reeves, comedian; the Padleys; Kitty Gower, dancer; Blanch Haddon, vocalist; H. Rippon; Barrett and Knowles, knockabouts; and Harry Glynnes and company, in an amusing sketch.

RHYL.

QUEEN'S PALACE.—Manager, Mr P. J. Ashfield; Secretary, Mr E. W. Parry.—A large audience assembled here on Monday to welcome the return of Mr Edward Bosanquet, who conducted the orchestra, which is entitled to every praise. Shawlene delights all with clever whistling solos; Les Laurens (three in number) appear in their statuary poses and give a smart ladder act; Percy Maye does well as a lady impersonator; the Sisters Spray, duettists and dancers, excel in the latter line; and Mill May, Anglo-French comedienne; Blanche Gerard, comedienne; Mollie Seymour, violinist; and the Vivagraph, with new pictures, complete a first-rate programme.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr A. R. Sutcliffe.—Wallis Arthur is responsible for several excellent songs, most of them being his own composition. Edith Blanchard has a good voice, and her songs are well rendered; Edgar Edwards's baritone ballads have been much appreciated; George Blackmore has a good selection of coon songs; and Ada Cleveland, soprano and accompanist; and A. R. Sutcliffe, manager, and vocal comedian, are also popular. Mr E. H. Williams's Merrie Men continue to add to their popularity, and attract large crowds. Mr Williams acts as interlocutor at each performance, and is well supported by the members of his company. He has also introduced various competitions.

ROCHDALE.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr Charles Clucas.—Wilson Barrett's new version of *East Lynne* is here this week with a strong company of artistes. Lord Mount Severn has a capable representative in Mr George Spence; Archibald Carlyle is portrayed with exceptional power by Mr Wm. F. Grant; Mr Percy Foster is admirable in the rôle of Francis Levison; Mr Paul Belmore is prominent with a fine impersonation Justice Hare; Mr Arnold Palmer and Mr W. F. Clitherow are successful as Richard Hare and Lawyer Dill respectively; Mr Edward Rochelle creates an amusing diversion by a capital portrayal of Bullock; Miss Hilda Stainer cleverly enacts the part of Barbara Hare; Miss F. Olive and Miss Frances Irving both give entire satisfaction as Cornelia Carlyle and Joyce; Miss Flo Florence acts with charming simplicity Little Willie; and Miss Bessie Rignold displays fine acting powers in her embodiment of Lady Isabel.

RUGBY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Rugby Theatre and Entertainments Co., Limited; Managing-Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Kingsley.—This week M. Chester and company's variety combination is here, and includes some capital artistes. Chief amongst them is Mr Charles Coborn, who scored an immense success, and had to respond to numerous encores. Miss Bessie Hemming, serio and dancer, is good; and the Zampah Bros., one-legged performers, give a most remarkable exhibition. Miss Alice Munroe is an excellent singer, and Mr Geo. P. Lester also scores a success. The other turns include the Carcassi Duo, Bonnetti, and the sketch, *Man's Not Wanted*, gives much satisfaction.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr W. E. Barnett.—Messrs Wilford Bailey and Harwood Cooper's company introduced on Monday *The Girl of To-Day*, a new musical comedy-drama. Miss Lily Beverley in the rôle of Dolly, has plenty of opportunities to show her many accomplishments, and earns well-merited applause. Miss Florence Lovell as Joan Leslie is good, as also are Miss Nellie Fern as Mrs Dawson, and Miss Melrose as Molly. Mr H. H. Barrington as Leonard Mortimer, Mr Wilford Bailey as Sullivan, and Mr Harwood Cooper as Robin are very effective.

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—Messrs Leonard Pagden and Lewis Gilbert's company is filling the bill here this week with *A Faithful Friend*. Mr J. W. Henson gives a characteristic representation of John Tollerton; Mr William D. Fazan gives a capital portrayal of Harold Sefton; Mr Alexander Wills is a manly Harry Somerset; and Mr Hilton Frances is natural as Antonio Orsini, an Italian. Mr Roy Byford is amusing and eccentric as Sir Thomas Jones and Mr F. Pennington-Gush is deserving of mention as Augustus Silvester. Miss Edgar Colona gives herself airs as Lady Thomas Jones, and Miss Ethel Grier has a strong part as Ruth Mayfield. Miss Josephine Colonas as Cynthia is very pleasing, and Miss Trissie Humphrys gives a sympathetic rendition of the rôle of Mildred Marsden.

RUNCORN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr H. W. Caddick.—Miss Bonwin Carlton's company is here in the interesting drama, *The Plucky Nipper*. Mr Leonard Fane is responsible for a good representation of Captain Frank Leslie, Mr F. M. Lawrence portrays Colonel Fenwick with force, Mr Edward Surrey's Bill Burgess is capable, Mr Philip Esmond is effective as Tommy Atkins, and Miss May Woodward is well placed as Ina Fenwick, and Miss Esther Lamonte as Daisy Paget evokes much sympathy by her acting.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Limited; General Manager, Mr Alf Hemming.—*Sweet and Twenty* is the attraction at the Opera House this week, with Miss Mabel Love playing the part of Joan in a bewitching and fascinating manner. Mr Shirley Lea's fine performance as the Rev. James Floyd calls for special mention; Mr Lionel Glenister is very good as Eustace; Mr Thomas Holding plays Douglas with effect; Mr Walter Cranch is amusing as Prynne; and Mr Willie King as Chris and Miss Eugenie Vernie as Ellen are excellent. The comedy is preceded by the musical farce entitled *You and I*.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General Manager, Mr M'Leod Loader.—This week Mr J. A. Campbell and company are appearing here for the first time in *The Sin of Her Childhood*. As Captain Thornton Mr Campbell enacts the rôle with much judgment; Miss Mary Fulton displays considerable grace and skill as the heroine, Mary Haysel; Mr Austen Milroy gives a vigorous rendering of Stephen; as the Rev. Alan Grey Mr Charles Fancourt has a part which suits him exactly; Little Dot Moss scores well as Hannah Spry, giving several banjo solos in a creditable manner. Mr Fred Elvin makes the most of the comedy part of Barney, and he is ably supported by Miss Nellie Freeland as Eliza. The piece is capitally staged.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs T. Barrasford, Will Sley, and F. Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. V. Cornell.—The week's bill is headed by the New York Comedy Four, who, as usual, are delighting large audiences. Miss Mabel Thorne renders some up-to-date songs with commendable smartness; Mr Wilson Warton is an exceedingly clever card manipulator; the Sivados, lady cyclists, display much grace and skill; the Solari Duo prove to be talented musicians and vocalists; the Brothers Llodge give a neat turn as athletes; Robins and Collier are amusing in the sketch *The Photographer and the Lady*; and Mr George Dean is well received in his songs and imitations.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—Mr Frederick Jarman's No. 1 company is presenting the Anglo-Russian sensational drama *In Dark Siberia*. The hero and heroine, Captain Victor Gordon and Natalie Gordon, are well portrayed respectively by Mr W. T. Riley and Miss Helen M'Culloch; while Mr Charles Osborne makes Major Waroffa a thoroughly brutal officer. Miss Cecilia Ransom does well as the Hebrew boy, Paul. Comedy is entrusted to Mr F. Thatcher as Sergeant Petrovitch and Miss Linda Riley as Ivanova.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—This week's programme is again excellent. The Six Brothers Luck head the bill with the comic pantomime *The Hotel Grande*. The other acceptable turns are Mephisto, acrobatic contortionist; Harry Coates, the original singing navvy; Hetty King, burlesque actress and mimic; Doris Lillian, comedienne and dancer; Vernon Troupe, xylophone experts, vocalists, and dancers; Goldini Trio, novelty spinning act; Bob Hutt, eccentric comedian; and the animated pictures.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead.—Twice nightly Ada Alexandra and her Merry Dutch Girls head a good programme, which is also contributed to by Miss M. Collard with her troupe of dogs; Cyrus Dare, with his funny stories of little children; Haydee, with her marionettes; Three Henriques, eccentric comedy artistes; Mdlle. Kloët, an artist's model; Henderson, the blind musician; Henri Bekker, comedy magician; Cliffe Dover, quaint comedian; and Mr Bert Lytton, swell comedian, in addition to a cake walk competition (at each house) for local amateurs, and the animated pictures.

L. AND N.W. PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietress, Mrs S. A. Higham; Manager, Mr Sam Higham.—The entertainment this week is well received. Among the artistes appearing are Mr Walter Dunn, eccentric character comedian; Miss Maud Kay, coon vocalist and speciality dancer; Mr Cliff Carter, quaint comedian; and Miss Louie Lauri, ballad vocalist.

SCARBOROUGH.

SPA.—Manager, Mr Fras Goodricke.—Many visitors are congregating here and listening to the enjoyable music rendered by the company's band under the direction of Mr Charles Godfrey, jun.

LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Waddington and Sons; Acting-Manager, Mr J. T. Carpenter.—Mr Kendal Chalmers' London company is here for the week in Mr Frank Curzon's comedy, *Tom, Dick, and Harry*. The play is smartly acted. Mr Ivan Gore and Mr Guy P. Ellis as Dick and Harry Winters are decidedly good; Dr. Wagner is played with ability by Mr Theodore Jones, Mr Hewetson is a capable Ned Moreland, Mr Phil Harper is a good Tom Stanhope, and Mr C. Wordley Hulse does well as General Rufus Stanhope. Miss Christine Errington is attractive as Daisy Armitage, Miss Nina Blake-Adams as Isabel Howard gives good support, Miss Mabel Verne is a clever and natural Molly Summers, and much the same may be said of Miss Ada Mansfield as Mrs Winters. *A Terrible Revenge* is a popular curtain-raiser.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Hy. Mayhew; Business-Manager, Mr F. P. Morgan.—The stage here is occupied by Mr and Mrs Fred Benton's company in *A Marriage of Vengeance*. The cast is a large one, and especially noteworthy are the performances of Mr Chas. Alton as Max Rheinhardt, Mr Vincent Gally as Ralph Dean, Mr Tom Avery as Cranley, Mr Stanley Carlton as Paul Earnscliffe, Mr F. Benton as Glynne Earnscliffe, Miss A. Harrison-Tate as Stella Burgon and Miss C. Clutterbuck as Elsie Dean. The play is of the highly sensational order.

PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr W. Kitchingman.—The programme provided here is excellent and well worth a visit. Great appreciation is shown towards the Cairo Orchestra, under the conductorship of Professor Voorzanger. Miss Carrey Kershaw, vocalist, is well received; the Seltina Troupe, acrobats, are exceedingly clever; and the same may be said of the Brothers Levett, chair vaulters. The Harlem Brothers give a novel turn as rifle manipulators; Will Cornish, musical bellringer, delights the audience; the Yorkshire humourist, Mr G. W. Nicholson, proves himself a favourite; and we must accord praise to Professor Dickinson and his troupe of lady swimmers.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Quinton Gibson.—The reputation of this place of entertainment is well sustained by the programme provided at the reopening this week. The Sisters Redfern are pleasing dancers; Luke Sharp, comedian, amuses the audience; Leslie Murray, conjuror, is loudly applauded; J. Hennessy, club manipulator, is decidedly good; the Schallers are able gymnasts; the Colmans, sketch artistes, give a good turn; Doolan and Daly, comedians and dancers, prove an acceptable addition; and the Victorian Trio of dancers win approbation. Professor Gilpin's ventriloquism keeps the house in good humour, and a series of animated pictures is also included in the varied programme.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee and Manager, Mr Fred Mouillot; Resident Manager, Mr Sydney Paxton.—Messrs Alexander Loftus and Jack Dale's company are here with *The New Barmaid*. Miss Amy Augarde appears in the title-part, singing and acting in fine style. Mr J. B. Montague as Bertie White is irresistible, his topical song bringing down the house. Mr Harrison Brockbank sings his lyrics in effective style, and Mr Jack Dale as William adds to the gaiety of the performance. Miss Maud Terry is a dainty lady journalist, Miss Hilda Blanche a charming Brenda, and Mr Sidney Vincent an expert dancer. The chorus is capital, and the band does good work under the direction of Mr Michael Dwyer.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs J. W. Gordon; Acting-Manager, Mr Dudley Colwyn.—Mr Gus C. Livesey's company are here in *The Crimson Club*. In the rôle of Richard Fenton Mr Livesey acts with telling effect. Miss Bertha Cousins and Mr Percy Shaw are loudly applauded for their clever contributions. Miss Alice N. Livesey plays in a spirited manner as Julia Marsden, and the remaining parts are all in safe hands.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; Manager, Mr Chas. Marte.—Miss Gracie Grahame heads the list here with her successful songs. The best turn is "done" by the peerless De Dio, in her creation, "Terpsichore's Dream," which is an artistic triumph. Grell and Grey score with their absurdity, *Bertie's First Lesson in Tennis*; and Harry Champion rattles off his songs smartly. Professor Thornbury, Zanfretta and Napio, E. J Rickard, Mdlle. Florence, and Fielding and Hull also contribute to an excellent progamme.

STOCKPORT.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. Revill.—Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company is here in *A Traitor Prince*. Mr E. Carter Livesey acts with power and effect as Ras Dalmeirez, and Lieut. Frank Derrick is pleasingly portrayed by Mr Joseph Carter. Mr Austin H. Longford capably fills the dual-part of Richard Vane and Colonel Vane, and Mr Tom Roydon is excellent as Cara. Mr Geo. V. Campbell as Billy Bright and Mr G. Montanini as the Hon. Bobby Vavasour Dalrymple are amusing. Miss Lilian Rosebery charmingly impersonates Lola Vane, and Miss Beatrice M. Anderson is effective as Vashti.

(Continued on Page 20.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. L'HEUREUX BLENKARNE.—*A communication addressed to him, care of* The Era *Letter-Box, may reach him*

E. C. MOORE.—*The new theatre mentioned will accommodate about 1 800 people, and will probably be opened in September or October. It will be an ordinary theatre and the architect is Mr Frank Verity, 7, Sackville-street Piccadilly.*

H. B. MAXWELL.—*(1 and 2) Only if no copyright exists in the novel. Otherwise the consent of the owner of the copyright should be obtained. For further information consult "The Law of Copyright," by A. A. Strong, published at the office of this journal.*

W. G. B.—*Frederick Robson, the comedian, was not in the original cast of* The Ticket-of-Leave Man, *produced at the Olympic Theatre in May, 1863. His last original part was Dogbriar, in Watts Phillips's drama* Camilla's Husband, *produced at the end of 1862. Melter Moss, in* The Ticket-of-Leave Man, *was written for him, but after a few rehearsals another actor, George Vincent, had to be engaged for the part, and on Feb. 12, 1864, before the run of the play came to an end, Robson died.*

M. P.—*In Mr Tree's revival of* The Merry Wives of Windsor *at His Majesty's in June, 1902, the principal parts were thus allotted:—Mrs Ford, Mrs Kendal; Mrs Page, Miss Ellen Terry; Ford, Oscar Asche; Page, F. Percival Stevens; Dr. Caius, H. Kemble; Anne Page, Mrs Tree; Slender, Charles Quartermaine; Fenton, Gerald Lawrence; Bardolph, Allen Thomas; Sir Hugh, Courtice Pounds; Host of the Garter, Lionel Brough; Shallow, Fisher White; Mistress Quickly, Zeffie Tilbury; and Falstaff, Mr Tree.*

O. W.—*The Garrick Club was founded Feb 25, 1831.*

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders

No Circulars admitted to this List.

Adair, Mrs Frank
Agoust Family
Aitken, Mr J. G.
Alethia, Miss
Alexander, Miss Ada
Arnold, Prof.
Arthur, Miss Edith
Athol, Mr Harry
Austin, Mr Sam
Bacon, Mr O.
Bailey, Mr Johnny
Barrett, Mr Medley
Bartlett, Mrs Hubert
Bedford, Mr E. A.
Biddall, Mr James
Bignell, Mr Chas.
Blakey, Mr Paul
Bon Bon, Mr Harry
Borders, Mr J. B.
Bowyer, Mr Arthur
Braithwaite, Mr J. W.
Bramich, Miss F.
Brough, Mr Robert
Browne, Miss B.
Bunce, Mr Thomas
Burdett, Mr
Burgoyne, Mr A.
Burnett, Prof.
Butt, Miss Bessie
Calvert, Miss L.
Campbell, Miss Ethel
Carling, Mr Tom
Carlo, Miss Rosie
Carlton, Mr Tich
Carola, Mr A.
Carroll, Miss Kitty
Chapender, Mr Martin
Cherry, Mr F.
Clark, Miss Dorothy
Clark, Mr J. Coats
Clayton, Mr Wm.
Clyo and Rochelle
Collard, Mdlle. Ida
Comstock, Mr Martin
Corneille, Miss M.
Costello, Mr Tom
Cremen, Mrs H. G.
Cruikshank, Mr
Currie, Mr Percy
Curtis, Mr Stanley
Cutler, Miss Kate
Daintree, Miss Dolly
Dalmour, Miss S.
Davies, Mr Alfred
Davies, Mr George
Davis, Mr Sidney
Delmar, Mr Harry
De Moreno, Mrs Maude
Dobler, Mr Geo.
Donaldson, Bros.
Drinkwater, Miss Daisy
Dundas, Mr F. H.
Earness, Mrs
Edmunds, Mr Walter
Edney, Mr George
Edwards, Mr Ernest C.
Edwards, Mr Julian
Evans, Mr H. W.
Feldon, Miss M.
Flatau, Miss D.
Forsyth, Miss Kate
Fossett, Mr
Foster, Mr Joe
Fox, Mr G.
Fox, Mr Will H.
Foyle, Mr George
French, Miss E. L.
French, Mr Arthur N.
Garden Troupe
Gastelle, Miss Stella
Gordon, Miss Esme
Gore, Mr A. Holmes
Grantham, Mr Vivian
Grapho and Jackson
Gratton, Miss Emilie
Gray, Miss Jenny
Grey, Miss Margaret
"Griff"
Hamilton, Miss Rose
Hamilton, Mr Henry
Hannan, Mr Charles
"Hardeen"
Hardinge, Mr Arthur
Hare, Miss Winifred
Harrison, Brothers
Hartley, Miss Flo
Hartley, Miss Ray
Haughton Combination
Haydon, Miss G.
Herbert, Mr Coco
Hilleard, Mrs
Hoch, Mr Franz
Hodson, Miss Stella
"Houdini"
Howard, Mr Walter
Howlett, Mr Carl
Ibrahim, Mr Millot
Kader, Mr Abdel
Kavanagh, Mr J. H.
Kelly-Robinson, Mr
Kendal, Mr and Mrs
King, Miss Hetty
King, Mr E. C.
Kley, Madame
Knowles, Mr R. G.
Lafayette, The Great
La Martine, Mrs Clara
Langton, Mr C.
Laplace, Mr George
Lee, Miss Jennie
Le Fre, Mr Albert
Leicester, Mr Ernest
Lennol, Mr J.
L'Estrange, Miss Dorothy
Lewis, Mr Carl
Leybourne, Mr Harry
Leyton, Mr George
Lindon, Miss Millie
Lloyd, Miss Violet
Lord, Murray, and Lord
Lorenzo, Signor
Lovel, Mr Leigh
Lymm, Sisters
Mackay, Miss Julia
Manders, Mr George
Manders, Mr John
Manning, Mr William
Martmengo, Mr Gilbert
M'Bride, Mr
M'Carthy, Miss P.
Miller, Mr F.
Miller, Mr J. P.
Money, Mr C. H.
Morrell, Frank and Evans
Morris, Miss Aggie
Morris, Mr Martin
Murphy, Mr C. W.
Nelson, Mr F.
Nelson, Mr H. Adair
North, Miss Lillie
Oban, Mr Tom F.
Oldenbuck, Mr A.
Oliver, Dr. J. C.
Orme, Miss Ilda
Page, Miss May
Page, Mr Edmond
Park, Mr C. W.
Parros, Brothers
Pillans, Miss Helen
Pitt, Mrs Felix
Polini, Mrs H.
Pollard, Mr Fred
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Radcliffe, Miss Florence
Raymond, Mr Stanley
Rennie, Mr George
Richardson, Miss Nell
Ricketts, Mr Arthur
Rochelle, Mr Ed.
Rochez, Madame
Rooney, Mr Michael J.
Ross, Miss Enid
Rowley, Miss Ada
Russell, Mr H. C.
Rutland, Mr Cecil
Samuels, Mrs W.
Sandford, Miss Eva
Sanoy, Mr R. V.
Sealby, Mr Walter
Seaton, Dr. R. G.
Sedgwick, Mr William
Serle, Mr Francis
"Shawlene"
Sherlock, Mr Will
Silvester, Mr R.
Sivado, Mr C.
Skelton, Mr G. F.
Smithers, Miss Flo
Staley & Birbeck, Messrs
St. Aubyn, Mr Carlton
St. Clair, Mrs G.
Steens, The
Stewart, Mr Otto
Stringer, Mr Mark
Stuart, Mr Otho
Sydney, Miss Ethel
Taylor, Mr Billie
Temple, Miss Madge
Thomas, Mr Dan
Thomas, Mr Brandon
Thornton, Mr Frank
Travis, Mr Carl
Trent, Miss Cissy
Trevosper, Miss M.
Trusty, Mr George
Turner's Opera Company
Turner, Mr Montague
"Vasco"
Victoria, Miss Kate
Vigor, Miss S.
Vincent, Mr Leonard
Waldo, Miss Nina
Walker, Mr John A.
Warren, Mr F. Brook
Webster, Mr Ben
Wentworth, Miss Fanny
Wheeler, Miss Lilian
Wintown, Mr Ernest
Wolraski, Mr
Woods, Mr G.
Wylie, Mr Lauri
Younge, Mr J. F.
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The following abridged description is specially drawn for *The Era* by Messrs Hughes and Young, patent agents, 55 and 56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all patent matters.

2,688. Aerial machines suitable for stage and other purposes. Patentees, Baumann, A., 35, Daubenbrunnen-strasse, Frankfurt-a-M., Germany. A machine for supporting objects in the atmosphere, comprising a centrifugal fan and its casing. Air is drawn from the top of the machine by the fan and expelled through the casing to the space beneath, where its pressure becomes increased. The machine may be provided with an inclined rim to increase its supporting surface, or it may have a vertical rim above it with tangential openings for the air to pass to the centre. In a modified form of the machine the air, drawn through an opening in a rectangular screen by the fan, is deflected by a plate against the reflex surfaces. The fan may be driven from earth through an electric cable, or by an oil motor.

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Directors, H. CAMPBELL, F. WILLIAMS, and T. G. HALES.—Monday, June 27, and every Evening, Alec Hurley and Star Company, in his Great Productions, "The Piccaninnies" and "The Lambeth Walk." Grand Singing Contest for Valuable Prizes. Entries to be made to the Manager. Walter Munroe, Alice Ormonde, the Burnells, the Garrells, J. Holland and Co, and others.
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Three Championship Cups.
FRANK ALLEN CHALLENGE CUP.—One Mile Walking Handicap.
BUCHANAN CHALLENGE CUP.—One Mile Bicycle Race.
CHAMPION CUP.—440 Yards Flat Race. To be won Two Years in succession. With Special Prizes for first, second, and third.
FOUR MILES MOTOR CYCLE RACE (Competitors must be directly connected with the Profession).
COMIC BARROW RACE—Two Laps—on the Grass (Artistes only). Each Wheeler must wear Tall Hat and Fancy Costume and carry one Adult Passenger similarly attired.
LADIES' WALKING RACE—440 Yards Scratch (Everyday Attire).
120 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP (Artistes only).
100 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP (Agents and Agents' Clerks).
TWO MILES BICYCLE HANDICAP (open to Professional Cyclists directly connected with the Music Hall and Artistes).
440 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP (Stage Employees, Musicians, Waiters, &c.).
100 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP (BOYS AND GIRLS). (Artistes' children only, over six and under fourteen) Special Prize each for the Prettiest Costume—Boy and Girl.
COMIC COSTUME SCRAMBLE (Competitors to be directly connected with the Music Hall Profession).
HALF-MILE RUNNING HANDICAP (Competitors to be directly connected with the Music Hall Profession).
120 YARDS HURDLE HANDICAP (Competitors must be directly connected with the Music Hall Profession).
Fourth Annual Comic Music Hall
DONKEY DERBY
(Weather permitting). Three Laps. Jockeys to provide their own Donkeys, and to wear Fancy Costumes.
Extra Special Prizes for this Event.
ONE MILE BUCHANAN CHALLENGE CUP BICYCLE RACE (Competitors to be directly connected with the Music Hall Profession—Professional Cyclists barred).
ONE MILE FLAT RACE CHAMPION BELT (Artistes only). To be won Two Years in succession.
ONE MILE WALKING HANDICAP (Competitors to be directly connected with the Music Hall Profession).
FIVE MILES BICYCLE HANDICAP (Artistes only—Professional Cyclists barred).
440 YARDS CHAMPION CUP FLAT RACE (Artistes only). To be won two years in succession.
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To MILDRED ELIZABETH HILLS.

Take Notice that a Citation has been issued in this Division citing you to appear and answer the Petition of Frank Hills, of 18, Clifton-crescent, Peckham, Surrey, praying for a Dissolution of Marriage. In default of your so appearing you will not be allowed to address the Court, and the Court will proceed to hear the said Petition proved, and pronounce sentence in respect thereto. And take further notice that for the purpose aforesaid you are within thirty days after the date of this publication to attend in person or by your Solicitor at the Divorce Registry, Somerset House, Strand, London, and there enter an appearance in a book provided for that purpose.

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE.
PROBATE, DIVORCE, AND ADMIRALTY DIVISION
(DIVORCE).

To ERNEST DARTIGAN.

Take Notice that a Citation has been issued in this Division citing you to appear and answer the Petition of Frank Hills, of 18, Clifton-crescent, Peckham, Surrey, praying for a Dissolution of Marriage, wherein he alleges you have been guilty of adultery with Mildred Elizabeth Hills, the wife of the said Frank Hills. In default of your so appearing you will not be allowed to address the Court, and the Court will proceed to hear the said Petition proved and pronounce sentence in respect thereto. And take further notice that for the purpose aforesaid you are, within thirty days after the date of this publication, to attend in person, or by your Solicitor, at the Divorce Registry, Somerset House, Strand, London, and there enter an appearance in a book provided for that purpose.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 1904.

DRAMATIC RESEMBLANCES.

The fact that Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM, having read the descriptive accounts given in the press of Mr WILSON BARRETT'S new play, *Lucky Durham*, thinks that he recognises in the plot a resemblance to that of *The Crisis*, revives pleasant memories of past enjoyment. It was on April 12, 1878, that EMILE AUGIER'S *Les Fourchambault* was produced at the Théâtre Français. The author of *Gabrielle*, *Le Gendre de M. Poirier*, and *Le Fils de Giboyer* gave indeed a very vigorous picture of French life. M. Fourchambault is a banker in an important commercial town. He has married an extravagant, ambitious, vulgar woman, who turns her easy-going, good-natured, weak-minded husband "round her little finger." Because she brought M. Fourchambault a fortune of 800,000f., she thinks she is entitled to plunge into the most irrational extravagance, and to spend, in personal and household expenses, far more than the banker's resources allow of. Not only does the disproportioned outlay prevent the bank from extending its business; there is every probability that, in process of time, it may lead to disaster. Fourchambault's father, in order that his son might marry the extravagant vulgarian, brought about, by calumny, a rupture between Fourchambault and a music teacher, whom he tenderly loved, and who was about to bear him a son. The banker has two children—Leopold, a provincial fop, dissipated and stupid; and Blanche, a frivolous, spoiled child, whose only idea is to get married as soon as possible. Blanche is engaged to Victor Chauvet, head clerk to a wealthy ship-owner, who has left Havre on a voyage to Guiana; but Madame Fourchambault has chosen for her daughter young Baron Rastiboulois, the son of the Sous-Préfet of Havre. Leopold amuses himself by attempting to seduce the handsome American governess, Marie Lepelletier, who, however, is sharp enough to keep him at a distance. Such are the Fourchambaults. In a different sphere, the music-mistress, now elderly, is living with her one son Bernard, who loves her tenderly. He has given up the idea of marrying; for were he to marry, he would, in accordance with French law, have to expose to the world the fact that he is a natural son, and so dishonour his mother. Bernard knows that the firm of Fourchambault is on the verge of ruin, and asks, "Who will save it?" "You, my son," says his mother. "Ah!" cries Bernard; "then Fourchambault is my father!" So Bernard invests 240,000 francs—an amount which represents his fortune—in the Fourchambault firm, and forces Madame Fourchambault, by strenuous argument and cool firmness, to reduce her expenditure to a sum equivalent to the interest on her fortune. The scene in which he "goes into figures," and finally forces Madame Fourchambault, quite beaten down, to exclaim "Ah, that's the husband I ought to have had!" is one of the most amusing in the piece. The big scene of the play, which made the audience at the Français tremble with excitement, is evolved from these events. Bernard falls in love with Marie; Blanche is thrown over by the sous-préfet's son when he hears reports of the "shaky" condition of the firm of Fourchambault. In order to excuse his conduct, Rastiboulois insinuates that the Fourchambault family is a little "shady," as Marie has been seduced by Leopold. Bernard, who believes this is the case, demands of the latter that he shall "make" Marie "an honest woman." In the stormy scene that follows the secret of Bernard's birth comes out, and the two young men embrace each other. In the end Bernard and Marie are united. Played by MM. GOT, COQUELIN, and Mesdames CROISETTE, REICHENBERG, and AGAR, *Les Fourchambault* made a tremendous sensation in Paris; and the effect was repeated when Mr JAMES ALBERY'S adaptation, called *The Crisis*, was produced at the Haymarket Theatre in the December of the same year—1878. In this Mr HOWE was the representative of the English equivalent of Fourchambault, Mr WILLIAM TERRISS was the frivolous son, Mr CHARLES KELLY the illegitimate one, Mrs JOHN WOOD the extravagant wife, and Miss FASTLAKE the governess.

In *Lucky Durham*, we soon learn of the embarrassed circumstances of Lord and Lady Mountfallon, who are on the road to ruin. An acquaintance of theirs is a mysterious John Durham, who has made a fortune in America, and lives with his mother, whom he almost worships. In the second act, after a heated argument with Lord Mountfallon, Durham admits in the presence of Mountfallon's daughter, Helen, that he—Durham—is his Lordship's natural son. In the third act Helen has become an affectionate friend of Mrs Durham, who, it now appears, was, years before, deserted by Lord Mountfallon, of whom she was the mistress. Without the knowledge of his mother, Durham buys the Mountfallon property, and takes possession of the family castle. He is about to turn his father from the door of it when Mrs Durham interferes. "It is not justice," she says; "it is revenge." Mountfallon is deeply affected by the mercy and forgiveness of the woman whom he has wronged, and Durham, who has fallen in love with Helen, is accepted by her.

Questions of similarity are always difficult to decide; but something is gained by a definite statement of facts. That there is very little resemblance between the two plays becomes obvious on comparison of our two scenarios. An important difference is that, in *Lucky Durham*, the illegitimate son bears enmity against his father and plans a bitter revenge, whereas, in *Les Fourchambault*, Bernard interferes in the affairs of his father with a benevolent object. The scene of the French piece which was essential to its success does not exist in *Lucky Durham*—a fact which is quite sufficient to prove that no accidental resemblance between the two plays is strong enough to affect a revival of *The Crisis*. Take away the quarrel and reconciliation between the two young men, and *Les Fourchambault* falls to pieces altogether, theatrically. As for the subject of illegitimacy, it is, of course, public property; and has been dealt with by DUMAS and others in many and various ways. If Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM is going to "bar" every new play in which the theme of illegitimacy is dealt with, on the ground that it bears a resemblance to *The Crisis*, he will have his hands full; and we consider his objection to Mr WILSON BARRETT'S drama as entirely unfounded and unreasonable.

THE MOODY-MANNERS COMPANY.

It is evident that Wagner is the best card that Mr Manners has in his musical pack. *The Bohemian Girl*, once the most popular opera in the world, has had its day, and has lost its old charm. Other once popular operas have failed to fill Drury-lane, but Wagner has achieved the desired result. On the 17th inst. Mr Manners produced an early work by the Bayreuth master, and the theatre was crowded. *The Flying Dutchman* was the first opera by Wagner to reach this country. It was given at Drury-lane, July 23, 1870, under the title of *L'Olandese Dannato*, literally *The Damned Dutchman*. Mr Santley and Madame Ilma De Murska appeared as the Dutchman and Senta. It was afterwards performed in English by the Carl Rosa company at the Lyceum, on Oct. 3, 1876, again with Mr Santley as the hero. Few composers have had to contend with such opposition as Wagner, although his genius led to such grand creations produced under the greatest difficulties. For example, this splendid opera was suggested by a visit to the Adelphi while O. Smith, the melodramatic actor, was playing the piece. Wagner's imaginative genius was employed in working out the operatic climax that the doomed Dutchman should be saved by a woman, and to carry out the idea he has made Senta the daughter of a Norwegian skipper, the scene being on the Norwegian coast, where the composer had once been shipwrecked. Wagner was always dissatisfied at the way *The Flying Dutchman* was performed, and only at Munich was it ever given exactly as he intended. The blood-red sails and black masts of the phantom ship are generally represented by commonplace mechanical effects, conveying little idea of the weird spectral illusion intended, and the performers as a rule fail to grasp the true character of the doomed seamen. Sir Henry Irving, when he played a dramatic version of the subject at the Lyceum, thoroughly realised the part. Mr Manners bravely attacked the difficulties attending the performance, and was admirably assisted by Madame Fanny Moody, who sang the music of Senta finely; but we must regretfully state that Mr Dever had got out of his depth—so to speak—in representing the hero. He did well up to a certain point, but was unable to suggest the imaginative effect required. Mr Charles Magrath and Mr Francis Maclennan rendered useful assistance as the bluff Daland and the disappointed lover, Erick. The stage arrangements were fairly good, and the representation met with favour. Mr Manners again addressed the audience, briefly stating that, if the present support continued, the company would probably occupy the Drury-lane stage for six months instead of three. We hope this prediction may prove true, for no other operatic manager has so thoroughly catered for lovers of opera in English.

"ANTOINETTE SABRIER."

A Play, in Three Acts, by Romain Coolus,
Acted for the First Time in London at the Avenue Theatre, on Saturday, June 18th.

Germain Sabrier	M. TARRIDE
Gaston Doreuil	M. ARVEL
René Dangenne	M. EMILE RENE
Rumille	M. BERTRAND
Savergnes	M. A. LOBERTY
Richard	M. PRIKA
Louis	M. GANDERA
Vignac	M. LAUGH
Jamagne	M. LEBERTON
Chef Tzigane	M. DERVAL
Un Garçon de Bureau	M. BERTELOT
Le Maître D'Hôtel	M. LURVILLE
Antoinette Sabrier	Mdlle. DORZIAT
Hélène Doreuil	Mdlle. MAIA
Marcelle Candes	Mdlle. FONTENEY
Madame Savergnes	Mdlle. DORVILLE
Fanny	Mdlle. BROCARD
Gilberte	Mdlle. DAUGE
Jeanne	Mdlle. LURVILLE

M.M. Félix Riche and Louis Hillier's enterprise in presenting to Londoners at the Avenue Theatre on Saturday one of the most interesting French plays of the last Paris season is certain to be rewarded. Excellent as Madame Sarah Bernhardt and Madame Réjane are, it is well for us to have an opportunity of seeing other French artists in important rôles. MM. Riche and Hillier propose to give in London a regular annual season of French plays, reviving memories of the times when Déjazet and Rachel and other Gallic favourites came to us every summer. Welcome indeed is the strong and interesting repertory which has been announced to us; and we look forward with pleasure to the progress of the company in the good graces of playgoers.

The piece which was selected for the first performance of the company on Saturday was M. Armand Coolus's play in three acts entitled *Antoinette Sabrier*, which was produced at the Paris Vaudeville about six months since. The student of French drama will find much to interest him in the characteristics of the work. Instead of the usual trio—the wife, the husband, and the lover—we have a quartette, completed by the platonic friend. Antoinette Sabrier has married a "serious man" who is engrossed in business. In French plays *l'homme sérieux* is what Balzac would have called a *predestiné*. His cuckoldom is only a question of time. In M. Sabrier's case, it is merely postponed. His wife, Antoinette, and her platonic lover Gaston Doreuil are at a dead-lock. She does not care for him sufficiently to allow him to effect his purpose. But her objection is not so much to the essential adultery as to the individual adulterer. It is only a question of "the right man in the right place." He soon appears. His name is René Dangenne; and with him Antoinette incontinently—in two senses of the word—falls in love. At the beginning of the third act she arranges to run away with him; but as they are going off together, who should they meet but Sabrier, returning from a business expedition which has convinced him that he is on the brink of commercial ruin? Dangenne offers to save the husband from bankruptcy by writing out a cheque; but Sabrier's suspicions have been excited, and he hesitates to accept financial salvation from his wife's lover. Dangenne, of course, stoutly denies that there is anything "between" himself and Antoinette; but she breaks down under Sabrier's cross-examination, and so he tears up René's cheque and shoots himself.

One of the finest performances that have been seen in London for a long time was given by M. Tarride as Germain Sabrier. The above scenario is sufficient to suggest the nature of the part. The position of Sabrier, sinking between two burdens, a bad wife and a tottering business, is intensely interesting and pathetic; and M. Tarride raises the rôle by his splendid treatment of it into the domain of tragedy. His performance was really grand in its artistic reserve, its contained force, and in its power and dramatic intensity, when those qualities were requisite. All who appreciate acting of the highest class should see M. Tarride in this part of Germain Sabrier. Mdlle. Dorziat as Antoinette acted with a fine suppression of personal prominence and an absorption in the character which was truly delightful; and M. Arvel made perhaps the best of the very difficult rôle of the platonic lover. M. René played Dangenne without exaggeration, but with minute and sharp effectiveness; and the secondary characters were all ably sustained by well-trained artists. In short, *Antoinette Sabrier* at the Avenue is an example of what is best in the French school of acting. The drama is followed by a bright, clever, and amusing duologue by M. Tristan Bernard, played for the first time in England, and entitled *Les Côteaux du Médoc*. A young man, using his telephone, is accidentally "put on" to the number of a young lady, with whom he soon establishes a lively verbal flirtation. Being switched off, he waits on the occupant of the next flat, and asks her to let him use her telephone. He thus is brought face to face with a lady, whom he soon finds is the charming personage with whom he has been chatting along the wire. M. Tarride showed his surprising flexibility and versatility by the bright and comic way in which he acted in this agreeable trifle; and Mdlle. Marthe Regnier, a delightfully fresh and agreeable young actress, charmed all by her dainty acting and prepossessing appearance.

On Wednesday took place the performance for the first time in London of M. Pierre Berton's version, in five acts, of Guy De Maupassant's novel, entitled

"YVETTE."

Jean De Servigny	M. TARRIDE
Docteur Marcowitch	M. ARVEL
Léon Saval	M. BERTRAND
Pierre Aubry	M. EMILE RENE
Mr Dumouchel	M. PRIKA
N'a qu'un Oeil	M. DERVAL
Don Ramirez	M. A. LOBERTY
De Lisieux	M. GANDERA
Le Chevalier Valréali	M. LURVILLE
Petit Bleu	M. GRANDJEAN
Le Prince Kravaloff	M. LAUGH
Le Vicomte De Selvigne	M. LEBERTON
Le Capitaine Huskinsson	M. VALDY
Yvette	Mdlle. MARTHE REGNIER
La Marquise Obardi	Mdlle. DORZIAT
Madame Pommeau	Mdlle. RENEE BUSSY
Pauline	Mdlle. DORVILLE
Comtesse Lammy	Mdlle. BROCARD
Mouche	Mdlle. MAIA
Eulalie Dumouchel	Mdlle. CERNEY
La Princesse Kalitchine	Mdlle. LURVILLE
Nadège Kalitchine	Mdlle. ISMA
La Duchesse Pietranera	Mdlle. FONTENEY
Paula	Mdlle. DAUGE
Zoé	Mdlle. ELMION
Madame Dumouchel	Mdlle. SOPHIA

Several important alterations have been made in M. Pierre Berton's version of Maupassant's novel "Yvette" since the piece was produced at the Paris Vaudeville in the October of 1901. The story, as at present related on the stage, runs as follows:—Yvette is the sister of a certain Marquise Obardi, a lady of light and easy virtue, who belongs to the smart Parisian "half world." Yvette, so to speak, is in the harem, but not of it. She is absolutely innocent, and does not understand her real position in the least. This has been objected to as unnatural; but De Maupassant, whatever his defects may have been, knew what he was writing about. For one thing, innocence is less a matter of opportunity than of temperament; for another, a young girl is never so shrewdly and carefully guarded as when she has a worldly "light o' love" for her watchdog. Yvette is entirely in the dark, and her reception of the addresses—paid with the "bad motive," of course—of a young Parisian *viveur* of good family named Jean De Servigny is quaint in its girlish naïveté. None the less, it is baffling to Servigny, who finds his hints and advances entirely repulsed by the maiden ignorance of the girl. Of course, things have to come to a climax between them; and this is reached when Servigny, in the Parisian equivalent of the Welsh Harp at Hendon, comes to the point, grapples with Yvette, and endeavours to kiss her. She escapes from him by a ruse, and an inkling of the nature of things begins to dawn upon her. She watches her sister, who is in the heat of an amour with Servigny's friend, Léon Saval, a rich sportsman; and, finally, Yvette understands her position. There is no future possible for her but to become the mistress of some one or other of the men who hang about the Marquise. So poor little Yvette goes up into her bedroom and takes chloroform, while the cruel and base philosophy of the cynical *viveurs* sounds harshly distinct in the garden outside. On the table she leaves a letter saying that she has died rather than go "to the bad." In the original piece the Marquise was the girl's mother. The pander-parent is not uncommon in France—see "Monsieur et Madame Cardinal" and other French realistic novels *passim*—but she has hitherto been somewhat rare on this side of the Channel, and might strike an English audience as too repulsive. We may, therefore, be grateful for an alteration which saves us some horror, without in the least detracting from the pathos of the story. As for M. De Maupassant and M. Berton's original dénouement at the Paris Vaudeville—where Yvette, recovered from the poison, repented of her virtue, and consented to "go wrong" with Servigny after all—it was atrociously cynical. But it was almost better than the present cheap conclusion, in which De Servigny undergoes a miraculous conversion, and offers Yvette lawful wedlock. It would have been far better to let the curtain drop on the suicide; the alternative adopted to secure a "happy ending" is too poor a thing.

Those who want to understand the real excellence of French acting should go and see *Yvette* at the Avenue. It is not a violent melodrama with opportunities for a clever actress to employ her repertory of theatrical tricks; it is simply a touching story told with a completeness and a finish that maintain the illusion constantly. The whole performance of *Yvette* is an instance of consummate histrionic tact. Our description will suggest how extremely delicate the situations are—how a little rough handling would make them lean to the cynical or the absurd side. Take M. Tarride's part, for instance. Jean De Servigny is neither a hero nor a villain. In attempting to seduce Yvette he is simply doing what all his friends would do in his place; and he absolutely cannot believe the girl to be innocent and sincere. M. Tarride as De Servigny preserves the *juste milieu* most cleverly. He is neither too much of a man of honour nor too much of a *roué*. He is simply an unconscious product of French civilisation. De Servigny's self-explanation in the first act is delivered by M. Tarride with admirable clearness, sharpness, and inflexion, and his advances towards Yvette are made exactly as they would be in real life. We also like immensely M. Tarride's silences—the suggestions of the absolute puzzledom that afflicts the usually penetrative amorist in his novel experience of meeting with innocence. As for Mdlle. Marthe Régnier, she simply captivated us from the first. But it was not merely her charm, her ingenuous grace in the earlier acts that bewitched us; it was also the intelligent manner in which she indicated the phases through which the girl's mind passes, and this as much by facial expression and minor touches as by direct statement. Mdlle. Dorziat as the Marquise Obardi was just the distinguished, unmoral, passionate, but polished and self-controlled *catine* required; and M. Bertrand as Léon Saval looked and acted the part of the handsome, athletic, phlegmatic sportsman excellently. M. Arvel gave a neat and finished performance as the Docteur Marcowitch; and the minor rôles—especially some comic ones—were treated with commendable care. *Yvette* had an enthusiastic reception from an appreciative audience; at one point the curtain was raised again and again, and Mdlle. Regnier was presented with handsome bouquets.

MR. TREE AND THE DRAMA.

Mr Beerbohm Tree, when called upon to respond for the Drama at the dinner given by the Mayor of Marylebone at the Hotel Great Central on Wednesday last, said:—"Mr Mayor, my Lord Duke, my Lord Mayor, my Lords, and Gentlemen,—It gives me great pleasure to respond for the Drama at any time, but more especially on this occasion, Mr Mayor. There are few men of your calling, either from the ecclesiastic or from the civic point of view, who have taken so practical an interest in the drama as it is well known you have taken for many years past. As an elocutionist you have realised the necessity of pure speech; as a clergyman, you have illustrated in your own person that breadth of mind, that sound commonsense which recognises in the theatre a force scarcely less potent, perhaps, than that of the pulpit itself. It is said sometimes that the power of each is on the wane—I should like to know the time when this was not said. But it may be asserted, I think with truth, that never was the spirit of religion—apart from the letter—more potently manifest than in the wide beneficence which is to-day shown, at least in this dear land, by the strong towards the weak—the duty of man to man is recognised to-day as it has never been recognised before. Witness the splendid contributions to hospitals, which institutions indeed subsist on those voluntary contributions which are demanded by that splendid state of bankruptcy which alone renders them flourishing and energetic. This spirit is evidenced in the Church, and it is evidenced, I think, fully as much on the stage. Scarcely a week passes that our actors do not contribute in some way towards the great and little charities of this country. We depend, in fact, in this as in everything, on individual help. Much has been said of late in favour of the State-aided theatre, but far above any aid which the State can give is the enthusiasm of the workers on the stage. Just as in the Church and in the State at all times, so on the stage the enthusiasts alone have held aloft the oriflamme. I am proud that reference should have been made to the School of Acting and of Elocution which has lately come into being, and that again owes its birth to the quality of an obstinate individuality which is sometimes called—and sometimes miscalled—enthusiasm. If a man listened to all his advisers, he would never accomplish anything. I hope that you may all have an opportunity of judging of the results of the work done this term, for in the autumn it is intended to give some public representations by the students, and I think it will be found that we have some remarkable material which will be none the worse for being taught the reading, writing, and arithmetic of our complex art. It has been said that the greatest and most successful actors would never give up their time to teaching their younger brethren. This, I think, will prove to be a fallacy, for many of those most honoured and most prominent in our calling have ungrudgingly offered their aid. For instance, on several occasions next week Lady Bancroft will be rehearsing some of the pupils in one of Robertson's great comedies. If anyone in the theatrical world could show a novice how to play Polly Eccles, I venture to think it is the lady who created the character in the year 1867—nearly forty years ago—and whose interest in all that pertains to the theatre is as keen to-day as it was then. For Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft have ever been the warmest friends of the theatre, and the splendid record of their management, together with that of Sir Henry Irving, did much to place our stage where it is to-day. The Duke of Fife has said that a man's highest aim should not be popularity. It is a useless thing to be a mere camp follower of public opinion. Here is an assembly to-night which is great because those present are the leaders of public opinion. It is no good to give the public what they think they want. Give them what you want them to want, and they will want it if you want sufficiently hard."

MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

THERE are whispers in the air that Putney is to have a variety theatre, and that it will be built by the directorate of the Chelsea Palace—Messrs Joseph Davis, Henri Gros, Henry Tozer, and George Adney Payne.

OWING to the obstructive tactics of Mr James Caldwell, the passing of the Musical Copyright Bill has been prevented, and a public meeting of musical composers, authors, singers, publishers, and all interested directly or indirectly in musical copyright is called for the evening of Monday, July 4, at eight o'clock, at the Queen's Hall. Mr Mount, M.P., Mr Galloway, M.P., Mr Malcolm, M.P., and other prominent members of Parliament will be present. Mr Caldwell seemingly considers that publishers and composers have no right to the protection of their property, and he has succeeded in talking the Bill out.

MR FRED RUSSELL returns to England to take up his engagements in July next, after his trip round the world. He has visited France, Egypt, India, Australia, New Zealand, Samoa, Honolulu, San Francisco, the St. Louis Exhibition, Niagara, and New York. His engagement with Mr Harry Rickards in Australia was a great success, and he has been re-engaged for his first vacant date, which is January, 1907. Coster Joe is in good health, and with his creator has much benefited by the trip. Mr Russell says: "Rickards is a real good fellow, and treats artistes who are prepared to fulfil the terms of their contracts splendidly, whether they are a success or not." He found the Australian audiences very appreciative, but critical, and it's no use to try stale stuff on them. Socially they treat you well.

"MADAME, if you don't have this, I shall weep like a little child. We must pay the rent to-night, somehow," said Mr George Robey, who was trying to make society buy at the Albert Hall on Thursday, the closing day of the great bazaar. Mounting a green baize rostrum, and wearing a dark-brown suit and a capacious smile, he conducted an auction sale of part of the unsold stock. Grasping a large nail-hammer, he astonished a throng of ladies by remarking that he was "an auctioneer pro tem." "As a friend," he went on, quoting the title of his latest song, "I wish to observe that I have no licence to sell things by auction, and that all of you round are parties to the crime." But spite of all his efforts trade was not brisk.

THE establishment of Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter will again be entirely closed to-day (Saturday), the occasion being the third annual staff outing. The venue will be the Gate Hotel, Cookham, and Mr David Day and Mr William Francis will be the guests. A feature of the day will be a cricket match, the teams being captained by Mr John Smith, the manager, and Mr Fred Day.

MR PAUL MARTINETTI is at present resting "up the river," where he passes the time in angling and other leisurely pastimes. Paul believes in the conservation of energy, and will show plenty of it when he starts work again with his company on Aug. 1 at the Stratford Empire.

MR TOM SHAW has been enjoying a visit to Signor Pepi's charming house near Peterborough, and has shown that in the gentle art of angling he is quite as proficient as in that of booking. The record of his captures is said to be a very remarkable one, but whether his new telegraphic address will be "Spooferies" has not yet been decided.

MR PICTON ROXBOROUGH AND MISS FANNY WRIGHT, who scored such great successes in *A Chinese Honeymoon*, will be seen at Collins's on Monday next in a farcical duologue, entitled *Learning the Language*, by Mr J. Bernard Dickson, the author of most of Mr Harry Randall's successes. Mr Roxborough, who is the tallest actor living, is not making his first appearance on the variety stage, as he appeared some years since at the Tivoli with Miss Wright.

MR FRANK MACNAGHTEN and Mr FRED BAUGH, who are now on a trip through the United States with the object of securing talent, left New York on Friday of last week, and proceeded to St. Louis, where they are staying at the present moment. They return to this country at the end of July.

WE are pleased to be able to report that Mr Frank Weeks' progression towards recovery from his serious illness has been so satisfactory that he will be able to leave his bedroom within a few days, and a short period of convalescence at the seaside will see him restored to his usual good health.

ATLAS AND VULCANA, of muscular fame, have just returned from a six months' engagement with Harry Rickards. The trip to and from the Antipodes was full of enjoyment. Vulcana, who was an immense favourite on board ship, turned her popularity to good account by collecting money for the Music Hall Home and the Music Hall Benevolent Funds. On the outward journey she gathered £6 18s for the Music Hall Home, and when bound homeward her charitable efforts yielded £3 10s. for the M.H.H. and £3 10s. for the M.H.B.F., the total for the two journeys amounting to £13 18s. The kindly impulse of Miss Vulcana in thinking of the less fortunate members of her profession is to be highly commended.

THE production of *A Yacht for Sale*, the sketch by Alfred Saker, which was to have taken place at the Oxford this afternoon, is postponed until next Saturday, July 2.

MR NELSON FRANCIS is working hard at the arrangement of the anniversary programme at the Brixton Empress on Thursday next, when it is expected that a host of stars will turn up to give éclat to the fifth annual.

DR. WALFORD BODIE is repeating his former triumphs in Bristol, the People's Palace being nightly packed to overflowing with the élite of the city, where he remains one week longer, making three weeks' stay altogether. He has had several very tempting offers from America and Australia, but as he is so far booked ahead, and doing so well in the Old Country, he has refused to accept. His new sensation, Mystic Marie, the Real Trilby, will be the novelty of the year.

MR CHARLES CLIFFORD, the favourite harpist and vocalist, has just returned from a long provincial tour, and is now enjoying a well-earned rest at his home in sunny Surrey previous to starting another tour, commencing on July 4. Mr Clifford, who is looking fit and well, has been delighting large audiences lately with his harp solos and songs.

AT the Oxford on Wednesday night Miss Dorothy L. Clark produced a new song entitled "I'm coming home," which proved an immediate success. The melody is a very pretty one, and the subject was enhanced by appropriate scenic effects.

COLONEL BORDEVERRY, who is paying a return visit to the Alhambra, has recently been performing in Switzerland, where his sensational rifle shooting was most successful. He is going to America, for the first time, next year.

MR HENRY CARLTON produced last week at the Palace, Tottenham, a new and original absurdity entitled *Obliging a Lady*, which made an instantaneous success. The military uniforms worn were specially made to order by Benjamin. Mr Carlton has but few vacancies, and his bookings reach to the end of 1906.

WE are informed by Mr J. L. Graydon that the Hippodrome, Hastings, is to be reopened on Monday, July 18.

MR OSWALD STOLL, after a week of waiting, has been granted a licence for his new variety theatre at Ardwick, which will be without a permit to sell alcohol. The licence is for three months only, in order that its renewal may come up at the annual sessions. It is a question whether a municipal authority, having passed the plans and approved of the building of a theatre, can refuse to grant a dramatic licence. In equity proprietors have a right to it, but the question has never been carried to the House of Lords. Why not

AN application was made on the 16th inst., to the Liverpool Licensing Bench, for the approval of certain plans in regard to the rebuilding of the Tivoli Theatre, Lime-street, formerly the St. James's Hall, where Sam Hague's Minstrels held sway for a generation and the late Fred Maccabe often appeared. The magistrates said there was no objection to the plans of the building to be erected, but they would have to reserve the question of granting a licence until the structure was completed.

ON the evening of the 16th a very pretty and picturesque Japanese ball was held in the Queen's Palace, Rhyl Prizes were given for the best and prettiest-dressed lady, and in spite of keen local competition the first prize of a gold-mounted umbrella was carried off by Miss Violet Bartholomew, of the Sisters Bartholomew.

THE Grand Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate, again opens in all its splendour for the summer, under the able management of Mr Chas. Evans, on Monday next. A first-class company is announced for the opening week, and several special attractions have been arranged for the coming season. It should be noted that the popular Charles Evans has this week completed his tenth year with Lord George Sanger.

THE popularity of Harry Burns as manager of the Empress Theatre of Varieties, Hartlepool, is marked indelibly, and the complimentary benefit which is to be awarded to him on the 29th inst. gives every promise of creating a record, as every available seat has been booked.

AFTER a run of years at the Empire, Middlesbrough, the Edisonograph pictures, as manipulated by Mr William Sangster, cease to-night. Much regret is felt that the amusement-loving public of the iron town are to be deprived of a turn which has always afforded enjoyment and pleasure at the premier Teesside hall.

A CHARITY matinée performance was given at the Empire Palace, Wolverhampton, on Saturday last, under the auspices of the Wolverhampton Charity Sports Association, there being a full house. The Palace was kindly lent for the occasion by the directors, and the artistes, included amongst whom were Alexandra Dagmar, Maud Mortimer, Hill and Whitaker, Leonard Barry, Cruikshank, the Original Vivians, and many others, all generously gave their services in the cause of charity.

THE fifth season of Mr Forsyth's promenade concerts at Clacton are proving more successful than ever. In addition to the band, Mr Edgar Curtis, the popular comedian, and Mr Edgar Berte, society entertainer, are going strong. Mr Forsyth's daughters, Lulu and Dorothy, are big favourites with their xylophone solos.

BALLET has always enjoyed a healthy activity in breezy Blackpool, where it formed the nucleus of the summer entertainment at the Winter Gardens in the days of Consul Guglielmus Holland. The choregraphic production of the present year is under the supreme direction of Mr J. R. Huddlestone; with him, as the lawyers say, Mr John Tiller, who will immediately inaugurate a terpsichorean extravaganza, entitled *Killarney*—a beautiful background that should inspire the librettist with the poetry and pathos of Irish folk-lore. Quickly the scene changes to Kerry Fair, with its old-time disports and merriments. And then a clear, dramatic story is unfolded. Young Lord Mountcassel, at whom a society beauty is diligently setting her cap, is faithful to his village sweetheart, and so means to continue, though the duties of his station take him to India in a distinguished capacity. In brilliant contrast to the Irish scenes are the museum of the Nawab of Bengal and the gardens of his palace, with a final procession and a ballad suggestive of the Durbar. Mr Herman Finck, the chef d'orchestre of the Palace Theatre, is the composer of the music; and Mr Will Bishop, of the Empire, who plays an important part in the production, will assist Mr Tiller in the mise-en-scène.

MISS GRACE OLIVIA, who appeared with much success at the Alhambra, Hull, last week, was born in Memphis, Tennessee, but has passed most of her life in England. She possesses a really fine mezzo-soprano voice and considerable histrionic ability, and has played many leading parts in drama, burlesque, and pantomime. She has been engaged by Mr H. C. Clements for the part of Constance, in his revival of *Honour Bright*, and will introduce her piano and vocal speciality. When she makes her reappearance on the variety stage she will produce a new scena, which is in active preparation.

MR E. GRAHAM FALCON is arranging a benefit for Mr Turner, the late manager of the Grand Theatre, Luton, on July 4. Mr Falcon intends turning this establishment into a Hippodrome on Aug. 1. Any artists caring to appear at Luton for Mr Falcon at Mr Turner's benefit should send their names, &c., to Edward Cranston, variety agent, 6, Chandos-street, W.C.

MISS JENNIE GREEN, daughter of Mr Tom Green, the comedian, is appearing with much success everywhere, in the Green, Gordon, and Green Combination, with *Our New Slavey*. Naturally the father, who is an excellent scenic artist as well as a capable clown, is very proud of the hereditary ability shown by his offspring.

ALTHOUGH all the other Paris theatres are closing their doors, the Alhambra still pursues its prosperous course. A new programme was announced for last week, too late for criticism. The house was full, in spite of the heat, but the ventilation had been carefully attended to, and the audience suffered no inconvenience. Claire Beasly and her marvellous cats were much appreciated, as also were Lowell and Lowell, a capital American knockabout turn. Ergotti and King Luis—the King is presumably the swarthy gentleman—performed the Risley act magnificently. The little lads are very quick and neat in their work, and the number pleased immensely. Pretty Marion Winchester, the little American dancer who won all hearts in London and later at the Scala here, has added more laurels to her wreath. She slightly resembles Edna May, but has plenty of ability and charm aside from any imitation. She is a fine "toe-artist," and sings quite prettily in a tiny bird-like voice. She was honoured with three curtain calls. Florence and Lillian, accomplished musicians, play on a variety of instruments, and Anna Thibaud, a winsome Parisienne, is always sure of a warm welcome. She gave some choice selections from her large répertoire, her imitation of Polin being exceedingly good. Sam Elton is too well known for it to be necessary to criticise him in detail. It is sufficient to say that he kept the audience in roars with his clever awkwardness with his plates and his appetite for tarts. The Four Cliftons are very fine acrobats, and the performance concluded with Bioscope scenes from the Grand Prix.

MESSRS RICHARD WARNER, George Scott (Alhambra), Harry Wickes (Queen's, Poplar), John Walker, Herbert Campbell, Whimsical Walker, Alfred Martinetti, and W. F. Moss, members of the committee promoting the fund for Mrs Jean Stanley, have decided to keep the subscription lists open for two weeks longer in the hope of raising the sum to £100, so as to be able to place Mrs Stanley in some business. The total amount received up to the present is £50. Any further contributions should be addressed care of Mr H. Klockenbusch, Alexandra Hotel, Southend-on-Sea.

ON Wednesday the London Pavilion cricket team met the eleven of the Canterbury staff at Tufnell-park, where a most interesting match was played. The Canterburians scored 203 for seven wickets and then declared. The opposition made 117 for six, and then the stumps and match were drawn. A. Wright, for the men of Piccadilly-circus, scored 74. Mr Fred Miller scored 28, and Clark, also on the Canterbury side, scored a century.

MR HAROLD MARCH is the new musical director of the Canterbury, in succession to Mr Jesse Williams, who was connected with the hall in 1869, and commenced his second term of office with the inauguration of the two-houses-a-night plan, which lasted but a few weeks.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr Fred Marlow and Miss Emily Adams on their silver wedding. They were married at St. Mary's, Lambeth, on June 23, 1879, and for some years accepted joint engagements, until Mr Marlow settled in Bow, bringing the small music hall there into line with other London variety houses. With amusement palaces springing up on every side, the new proprietor decided to rebuild, and formed a company for that purpose. Eventually Mr Marlow went to Southend, and has been running the Empire Theatre there for the last ten years. Mr Marlow's eldest son is following in father's footsteps, and shows much hereditary ability. The "young couple" have received many felicitations on their anniversary, and some handsome presents.

MISS LALLAH SELBINI is wearing a very striking costume for her cycling and juggling turn at the Alhambra. It comes from Paris, and suggests a morning dip in the sunny sea rather than an evening performance on a London stage. It is white, and fits her exceptionally graceful figure like a glove. There is a touch of scarlet here and there, with big bows of black ribbon just above the knees, and she wears a vivid red silk cap on her dark hair, or a jaunty white sun hat. Miss Selbini, who commenced trick bicycling when she was only three years' old, on a specially made machine, with a ten inch driving wheel, has recently returned from a six months' tour in South Africa, bringing back with her many tributes of admiration, notably a handsome diamond ring, the gift of a party of unknown friends.

MISS SELBINI is the wife of Mr Willie Pantzer, of the Pantzer Brothers, now appearing at the Hippodrome. Both she and her husband are ardent motorists, and if they keep to their present resolution to retire from the stage in three years' time, they will probably explore as many parts of the world as it is possible to do with enthusiasm, money, and a motor. The odd little boy who is assisting Miss Selbini in her turn at the Alhambra comes from South Africa, and gives promise of becoming a clever acrobat.

VANOLA, the clever foot equilibrist, now appearing at the Alhambra, has had an interesting and adventurous career. Born in Mexico, he entered the show business when he was about twenty, having already tried the life of a seaman. He is entirely self-taught, and although he finds it hardly necessary to practice at all nowadays, in the old days he would lie on his back tossing and balancing a barrel with his feet for three or four hours at a stretch. His most effective trick—making his barrel rest on the top of a huge ball—was so difficult to accomplish that he almost gave it up in despair, but finally "burnt his boats" by having a picture-poster circulated of that very feat, although the first time he managed it successfully was on the stage itself. Mr Vanola has travelled in all parts of the United States, and made his London début at the Hippodrome some years ago.

THE King, through his private secretary, has written to Mr Peter Adair from Buckingham Palace saying that his Majesty is pleased to accept Mr Adair's "Guide to Health, Life, Reminiscences, and Hints on Training." Mr Adair will be in London to compete in the mile walking contest at the Music Hall Sports, which take place on July 5.

THE 360th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr Fred Neiman presiding. Mr Charles Kimber, of the Pembrook Hotel, Southampton, and Mr T. H. Hulley, of the Burlington Hotel, were appointed as agents. The secretary reported that thirteen new members had joined during the past week, making the total number enrolled since the commencement 10 314.

MISS JESSIE PRESTON, that genuine artiste and East-end idol, now appearing at the Canterbury and Paragon with the greatest success, has signed a three years' contract with the Adney Payne Syndicate at a large increase of salary.

THE Three Prestons, at present appearing on the Barrasford tour in their screaming absurdity *The Liftman's Rise*, are earning plenty of applause and securing return dates. While at Glasgow Mr Jock received a most tempting offer to create the principal Scotch comedy part in Mr Richard Waldon's forthcoming Princess's pantomime.

OUT of consideration to Mr Frank Weeks, Mr Harry B. Wincote and the committee of the South London outing, which was postponed pending Mr Weeks' recovery, have arranged that their trip this year shall take place on the 24th of next month, the venue being Herne Bay.

THE second river outing of the officers and committee of the M.H.A.R.A., which takes place on Sunday, July 3, promises to be largely patronised. Nearly eighty tickets have already been sold, and as the number is strictly limited (to avoid overcrowding), those wishing to be present should send in their names to the secretary at once.

ABOUT one o'clock on Thursday, while cycling in the neighbourhood of Clapham-common, the seventeen-year-old son of Mr David Cowls, stage-manager of the Canterbury, met with a serious accident, and was moved to the Bolingbroke Hospital in an unconscious state. It is supposed that he must have come in collision with a vehicle, but nothing is known at present of the real cause of the unfortunate occurrence. Mr Cowls was communicated with, and the only comfort he could derive from the report of the doctors was that no bones were broken.

THE staff of the London Pavilion had a most enjoyable outing on Sunday last, the rendezvous being Tunbridge Wells. Mr Frank Glenister presided at the dinner, which was served at the Carlton Hotel. The toast list was commendably short, and the afternoon was passed by many members of the party in rambling through some of the most beautiful scenery in Kent.

MR GERALD MOUNT, "the impersonator at the piano," has signed contracts through Verno's Agency reaching well into 1907. An excellent musician, endowed with great versatility, he is a great favourite in the North and Midlands.

LEWIS LEVY, the advance agent, whose name is universally known and respected in the circus world, completed on May 25 an engagement of twenty-five years with Pinder's Circus. Messrs Pinder, who are known in France as the tent kings, have obtained their great reputation and celebrity through the exertions and devoted services of Lewis Levy. Mr Levy's task has been all the harder, as the fight he sustained was a very uphill one. There have been in the last few years many newcomers in the tented field; but notwithstanding this competition Pinder's Circus has always remained foremost, and has acquired the reputation of giving the best tent show on the Continent.

MR LEVY began life at the Royal, Holborn, with M'Callum and Sharman, then toured the Continent with Smith and Bell. We may add that he is not alone one of the most energetic and enterprising of circus advance agents, but he is also a man of great culture and education, being a bachelor-at-law. He has also served as an officer in the French Army. Mr Levy's sympathetic face and broad-brimmed hat are familiar to every circus-goer in France.

MR CHARLES UBEAN may be congratulated on the production at the Alhambra of his exceptionally fine bioscope views depicting the great international motor race for the Gordon-Bennett cup held in Germany on June 17. Mr Urban, who took over with him to Homburg eight skilful operators, stationed his men at the most interesting sections of the course, and as he had eighty-seven and a-half miles from which to select positions his task was no easy one. He received, however, every courtesy and considerable help from the French and German automobile clubs, and with the further assistance afforded by the kindly offices of Baron von Brundenburg, the chairman of the Race Committee, he was able the night before the event to distribute his men all over the course, special care being taken to have photographers at the dangerous points.

THE opening film shows the competing racing cars and their drivers as they were photographed during the weighing-in process on the day prior to the race. An excellent view is given of each machine, and the likenesses of the daring motorists are equally plain and distinct. Following these we are introduced to the Emperor and Empress of Germany on the arrival of their Majesties at Homburg, and a first-rate view is that of the Imperial Tribune at Saalsburg, where the grand stand is erected. Then the race starts, and we see the motors sweeping round curves at Saalsburg and dashing down the straight at Wehrheim with lightning-flash like speed. In one place the cars are preceded by military cyclists, and the motorists have to drive their machines at slow place, the reason being that the privileges of high speed are not permitted in certain neutral towns, notably that of Neuhof. However, they make up for it a few seconds later in the rush down the Weilburg "straight" and through Saalsburg.

IT is sufficient to make one hold one's breath while watching the different motors manipulating at a terrific pace an acute "S" curve in what is considered the most dangerous part of the entire course, and hardly less exciting is the skidding round of the cars of another sharp curve after passing Limburg control. Very picturesque is the panoramic scene of the east end of the Tribune, showing cars rushing through the arch, and an exceptionally fine view is that which presents the enormous crowds cheering Théry, Jenatzy, and De Caters clearing the winning post. Mr Urban was exceedingly fortunate in securing, through the German War Minister, the Kaiser's consent to being photographed, and the portrait one gets of his Imperial Majesty leaving after the race is very life-like, as are also those where he is seen conversing with various state officials and stepping into his motor after bidding farewell to his friends.

MR PETE MURRAY, who for two and a-half years acted as manager at the Grand Theatre, Sheffield, is the new manager of the Foresters'. Prior to his appointment in the City of Steel he occupied a similar position at Chesterfield and Bradford, and, in fact, has been associated with Mr Frank Macnaghten practically since the commencement of the latter gentleman's music hall career. Mr Murray can lay claim to considerable experience before the footlights, for in addition to his playing important parts in *A Thousand Pounds Reward*, *The Rajah*, and *The Indian Prince*, he was for three years specially engaged with the Livermore Brothers' Troupe, in which he performed notable service. During his tenure of office at Sheffield Mr Murray received at the hands of the Lord Mayor of that city a presentation of a gold chain and pendant and a silver-handled walking stick, in recognition of his charitable efforts in promoting a carnival for the benefit of the poor of Sheffield, a sum of £600 being realised.

MR HARRY LISTON and MISS LORD LUMLEY'S "Merry Moments" have been so successful at Blackpool, Skegness, Morecambe, Southport, &c., that they have been re-engaged at each town this season. In June last year Mr Liston had his handbag stolen from the cloakroom, Central Station, Manchester, containing paid-up life policy, his and his late wife's will, property deeds, contracts, private and professional correspondence, numerous original songs, sketches, diamond pins, rings, solid silver presentation cigar-case, lady's gold watch, and other articles worth about £60 to £70. Although Mr Liston possessed the usual cloakroom ticket, all the compensation he received from the Cheshire Lines Railway Company was £5, "out of sympathy," they "disclaiming any liability, because the bag contained over £10 in value, which was not declared at the time of depositing the bag with them." (Travellers should note this clause.) Mr Liston has suffered enormous trouble and expense through the lost bag and contents, has largely advertised for same and waited patiently with the hope of some clue to the same, and will reward any person who can give the whereabouts of the purloiner.

OWING to the premises in Church-passage, Old Compton-street, having been found inadequate, Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter are moving the branch establishment, for the handling of their now famous "Sixpenny Pops.," to larger and more commodious quarters at 22, Denmark-street, Charing-cross-road, hard by the firm's headquarters. The new branch will be opened on July 1.

THE fine "arrangement" of Miss Vesta Tilley's success, "The wise old owl," has called forth the highest encomiums from lovers of orchestration. It is the work of Henry E. Pether, who is greatly in request among the "stars" for this important branch of business. Messrs Charles Sheard and Co. are the publishers of the song in question.

MISS VESTA TILLEY has just acquired a song tentatively entitled "A Sailor's Wooing." It is by J. Airlie-Dix, and is fully in accord with the name he bears for careful musicianship combined with originality.

NEW verses are being added to Mr Ernest Shand's song, "By kind permission of the *Daily Mail*." The knighting of the proprietor of that organ has not escaped the notice of the author. Mr Bennett Scott is as fortunate in his artists as he is clever in his handiwork.

MR HORACE WHEATLEY, by permission of his friend, Mr Walter Munroe, will sing the latter's clever song "What you love about an Irishman," by Fred Barnes, in pantomime at Dublin at Christmas.

IT was on the night of Jan. 20, 1884, that the popular place of entertainment known as Lusby's Music Hall, Mile-end-road, was burnt to the ground, having had only a brief existence of seven years. The damage was estimated at £40,000, but the proprietors, Messrs Crowder and Payne, at once determined to erect a new and much larger building on the site. The new Paragon was opened to the public in the summer of 1885, with a most attractive programme, the principal items including a new comic ballet entitled *The Marquis*, played by Mr Paul Martinetti and company, the late G. H. Macdermott, the late Fred Albert, Herbert Campbell, and other well-known artistes.

THE nineteenth anniversary of the reopening was celebrated on Thursday evening, when a crowded audience had the pleasure of listening to a capital programme. Amongst the comediennes were Miss Florrie Gallimore and Miss Jessie Preston, whose songs were as usual received with much favour. An excellent knockabout and wire act was given by the Mackweys, and the performance tendered by the trio known as the Yalleroms was much appreciated. To propel with the feet a huge black ball up an incline—as these artistes do—requires no little skill and practice. The smart musical entertainment given by Clark and Hamilton proved to be a most acceptable item.

HARRY TATE in his *Motoring* caused general merriment. Mr Tom Leamore came late, but his funny songs were none the less enjoyed. Miss Sable Fern was as dainty and charming as ever, and well received also were the contributions of Miss Gertrude Wright, Miss Dot Henry, and the Sisters Morgan. Regan and Ryan, Irish comedians, contributed to the fun, and so, too, did that well-known troupe the Karnos, in *Early Birds*. Yukio Tani, the renowned Japanese wrestler, displayed his prowess, and evoked unstinted applause. The Lancashire Lads had a good reception, and the Imperial Quartette were listened to with pleasure. Other turns were given by Gilbert Gerard, Walter Stanley, Hettie Hay, R. W. Bentley, Bessie Spear, Gracie Taylor, Jennie Reeves, and Lottie Bell. Ruffell's Bioscope was also exhibited. Mr A. Grimmett's band rendered good service, and the front of the house was well looked after by Mr C. Beecham. Amongst those present were Messrs George Adney Payne, Isaac Cohen, Edward Granville, and H. Masters.

MR E. OSWALD BROOKS, sometime manager of the Terriss and Surrey Theatres (the latter under the two-houses-a-night régime), and other places, has just joined hands with Mr Charles Calvert, the well-known music hall artiste, stage-manager, and producer, and they have started the Brooks and Calvert Dramatic and Vaudeville Agency, with offices at 3, St. George's-circus, S.E. Their first venture will be a sketch, entitled *The Clown*, by Gilbert Dayle, which had so successful a run in Australasia under Mr Frank Thornton's management. Mr Brooks is also co-proprietor with Mr Charles Windermere of *The New Housemaid* company now touring the provinces.

MR FRED WESTON (Weston and May) has been fortunate in obtaining the services as his partner of Miss Julie Fuller, daughter of Mr Frank Fuller. Miss Fuller, it may be mentioned, is another recruit from the legitimate stage, and met with great success in John Lawson's *Humanity*, also as Nora, in Chalmers Mackey's *Wearin' o' th' Green*, and numerous other well-known companies. *Married Life* is the title of the duologue in which Miss Fuller takes part, and which is meeting with great success.

MISS FLORRIE FORDE has produced another new song entitled "Down at the Old Bull and Bush," which is proving an enormous hit at the Royal and Gatti's. The authors and composers are Messrs Percy Krone and Russell Hunting.

THE staff of the Hackney Empire have arranged to take their outing this year on the 24th of next month, when they will pay a visit to Hatfield.

MR EDWIN LESLIE, recently appointed assistant-manager to Mr Fred M'Cullah at the London, has had considerable experience of theatrical affairs, and is rapidly making himself popular in Shoreditch.

MR HARRY WRIGHT, NELLIE GANNON, and daughters, after three weeks' holiday at their home in Leicestershire, commence business on Monday next at the Queen's, Poplar, with a long tour to follow.

FRED RUSSELL IN AUSTRALIA.

Fred Russell is the absolute best ventriloquist we ever had here, and his turn creates as much surprise as amusement, it seeming impossible that a man who shows absolutely no facial movement can utter the varied sounds and sing such difficult music as he does. He was thunderously applauded on Saturday.—*Sydney Sportsman.*

The chief attraction at the Opera House last night was the first appearance of Mr Fred Russell, who proved to be not only a most accomplished ventriloquist, but a humourist of the highest order. His method has to some extent been already introduced to Australia by Mr ——, but Mr Russell is far and away the more finished artiste.—*Melbourne Age.*

Mr Russell is unanimously pronounced to be the best entertainer of his description seen in Melbourne for many years. His ventriloquial gifts are marvellous, and his dialogue so irresistibly funny and clever that it is no wonder he received such a very marked demonstration on Saturday.—*Melbourne Referee.*

Mr Fred Russell entirely changed his programme, and showed a versatility that was perfectly astonishing. He simply made the house roar itself sore over his ventriloquial opera.—*Sydney Newsletter.*

There were two big events at the Tivoli Theatre on Saturday night—the first appearance of the new star, Carkeek, and the last appearance of the old star, Fred Russell. Mr Russell has made himself exceedingly popular in social as well as in theatrical circles, and consequently there was an enormous assemblage to wish the gifted ventriloquist *bon voyage*. At the conclusion of his performance he had an ovation such as is seldom accorded an artiste in Sydney. He was recalled again and again, and the programme could not be proceeded with until he had expressed his acknowledgments in a few graceful words. Later in the evening a champagne supper was given at Tattersall's Hotel in Mr Russell's honour by a number of prominent sporting and theatrical gentlemen, at which Mr Harry Rickards made the gratifying announcement that he had induced Mr Russell to accept another engagement for Australia in 1907.

The event of the evening was the appearance of Mr Fred Russell, who is just the sort of jester this weary metropolis has been waiting for. He is fresh, refined, and simply manufactures laughs wholesale. —*Sydney Newsletter.*

The most "amusin' cuss" on earth, now that Artemus Ward's kangaroo is dead, is "Coster Joe," Fred Russell's off-side partner at the Theatre Royal. Russell is the best ventriloquist we have had in Australia; and, besides having great ventriloquial powers, he is also gifted with a natural fund of humour.—*Perth Truth.*

Fred Russell fairly makes the audience shriek with laughter at his intensely amusing dialogue with his dummy "Coster Joe." Nothing more entertaining in the ventriloquial line could be wished for.—*Melbourne Table Talk.*

Mr Fred Russell does his work in a surprisingly clever way, and his performance was continuously applauded, as it well deserved to be, because he is, without doubt, the best exponent of his art yet seen on a Sydney stage.—*Sydney Daily Telegraph.*

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE OXFORD.

As conscription is said to be within measurable distance of practical politics, songs on the subject are likely to crop up everywhere. To Miss Vesta Tilley, however, has been reserved the distinction of being the first in the field with a stirring lyric on the subject. The eyes of Europe are being opened to the fact that the highest military strategy does not belong solely to the great Powers of Europe, and England herself is receiving a lesson in the art of being prepared for war that should have a salutary effect on the organisation of its military administration. The success of the gallant little Japs, indeed, gives us pause; and the subject of compulsory service—recommended as it is by army experts—is not likely to be ignored by practical statesmen. Miss Tilley naturally takes the popular view of the subject, and sounds the praises of the men of England who are always ready to take arms in defence of King and country when the Empire is in danger. The idol of London evokes rounds of cheering, and sings the number with all the vigour and intensity of which she is capable. Another Vesta touches the springs of laughter when she sings "It's alright in the summer-time." The subject lends itself to diverting treatment, and Miss Victoria puts in one of those quaint dances which are always welcome. "Short Stories" from Mr Ernest Shand cause shouts of laughter, and there is general effervescence when the same comedian in a silly sarcastic mood sings "By permission of the *Daily Mail*," which, by-the-way, is an excellent advertisement for that journal. Mr George Robey touches the comic side of municipal life in his sketch of the Mayor of Mud-cum-Dyke, and the satire at the expense of the chief of a country areopagus is very smart and entertaining. The speech of the public functionary at the opening of some baths is in the best Robeysonian vein, and it is seldom that we have seen the popular comedian in a funnier mood. Indeed, he has done nothing better than the impersonation under notice. It has set all London laughing, and has added vastly to his reputation. Mr Alf Gibson, who comes early in the bill, makes fun of "Frozen meat," a song written in Mr T. W. Connor's well-known style. It is sung with all Mr Gibson's command of humorous immobility. Barnard's Marionettes are a variety entertainment in themselves, and the expressive energy of these puppets is astonishing. The cake walk and coon dance are quite up to date, and there is an old-fashioned Grimaldian flavour about the pantomime fun that is very refreshing. Mr Will Poluski, jun., bears a name that has its responsibilities, and he should at once eliminate the grey-whiskered wheezes that now disfigure his stage talk. Oxford audiences, however, admire his acrobatic dancing, and he should endeavour to increase his popularity by songs that are at least worthy of the family reputation. Williams and Brown are not highly original in their cross-talk, of which London audiences just at the moment have a surfeit; but there is consolation in store when Mr Joe O'Gorman arrives with a Hibernian skit on the cake-walk. Sentimental singers are always sure of an excellent reception at the Oxford; and Miss Florence Esdaile's brilliant rendering of "The Dream River" is one of the treats of the programme. Miss Maggie Walsh has some fine notes, but her interpretation of "A Moorish Maid" is not remarkable for culture. A very lively and diverting duo are Clark and Hamilton, who have returned from Australia after a most successful engagement with Mr Harry Rickards. The turn is as full of diverting energy, vim, and sparkle as ever, and Mr Clark's abilities as a comedian and pianist are gaily supplemented by his partner's chic and fascination as a dancer. Miss Daisy Mayer's sand-dancing is wonderfully neat; the dramatic skit presented by the droll Mr George Mozart, "A Day at the Races," is an irresponsible spasm of buffoonery that the laughter of the audience completely justifies; Dutch Daly indulges in jokes new and old; and a turn that causes intense excitement is the Japanese wrestler, Yukio Tani. Miss Dorothy L. Clark has an interesting descriptive song in "I'm coming home to you," which is illustrated by a most effective tableau of the deck of a man-o'-war, with the sailor-hero of the verses lying wounded in the arms of a comrade. Mr Tom Leamore has an excellent vehicle for his comicality in a broken-down masher song; and other turns include Will Dalton and the Abdullah Arabs. Mr Albert Gilmer rejoices in excellent business.

THE ROYAL.

The policy of giving two performances a-night has proved decidedly successful at the Royal, the attendance at both being good. Wrestling still possesses a strong attraction for a certain section of the public, and one of the most important turns at the Holborn variety theatre this week is Tom Jenkins, the American wrestler, who has defeated several well-known men, and is matched to wrestle with Hackenschmidt at the Albert Hall for the sum of £2,000. Jenkins offers to compete with anyone, irrespective of size, colour, weight, or nationality, providing a substantial deposit is made, and he further makes an offer of £25 to any British wrestler whom he fails to throw in ten minutes. On Wednesday evening a competitor hailing from Chiswick tried conclusions with him, and came off very well, the American eventually proving the victor in 8min. 17sec. Amongst the ladies engaged here this week is Miss Florrie Forde, who, handsomely costumed, meets with a most flattering reception. She opens with "Come and make eyes at me down at the old Bull and Bush," a comedy chorus song in praise of the ancient and well-known hostelry at Hampstead-heath. Her excellent voice is also well employed in the sad little ditty "Always in the way," the lament of a motherless child who is neglected and ill-treated by his stepmother. Miss Eileen Douglas, a dainty comedienne and dancer, is also here. She sings "She taught the kiddies at the infants' school," a humorous effusion which relates how the mistress teaches her deceitful young man a lesson by suing him and obtaining heavy damages. A pretty and graceful dance concludes her turn. The Five Ashleys are responsible for an amusing vocal and dancing performance. They appear as laundresses, two of the young ladies busily occupying themselves at the wash-tub, while another couple are seen ironing, but their efforts in the laundry line do not seem to worry them much, and their gay appearance certainly belies their occupation. The male member of the troupe plays the part of a grumbling old washerwoman, and after exchanging much humorous repartee with her giddy young assistants, their saucy answers causing much merriment, the girls cease work and indulge in skipping rope and other dances, the old lady also vigorously joining in. This is a smartly worked turn, which is much applauded. Mr. Charles Chard, comedian, in the guise of a seedy-looking individual, sings, "I'm a count of no account," and also gives a greatly appreciated dance. Mr Hal Chapter scores with a dame song, "For my sweet sake," and his more familiar "Oh, turn your eyes away," a humorous contribution that greatly pleases the audience. Very funny and effective is Mr Harry Maxam's quaint impersonation of a policeman in the ditty, "I know where to find them," his humorous patter, grotesque appearance, and eccentric antics causing shrieks of laughter. "Just beginning to sprout" is another acceptable comic song from Mr Maxam, whose reception is of the most flattering description. Miss Bessie Lind sings in pleasing style a coon song, "Hurry up, Lucy," and is also applauded for her dancing. A clever and interesting aquatic entertainment, called "Monte Cristo," is given by Kenna, who has the valuable assistance of Miss Lizzie Beckwith, a member of a family distinguished for their swimming capabilities and their wonderful feats in the water. The musical performance given by Baker and Balfe, xylophonists, commands attention and wins applause. The orchestra at the Royal is now under the direction of Mr Frederic D. Wood, and Mr H. Ketterman efficiently carries out the duties of manager.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

The recent spell of fine weather naturally has had a tendency to diminish the attendance at the theatres and music halls, and the Hackney Empire has had, with the rest, to compete with the many allurements to spend the summer evenings in the open. Happily, however, the quality of the entertainment has not in the slightest degree deteriorated; and the current programme is attractive and interesting from beginning to end. Higher praise than this could not be bestowed upon any variety bill-of-fare. As a pleasing preface to the various items which are to follow, the Empire orchestra, under the able direction of the conductor, Mr Walter Johnson, plays a selection from Lecocq's opera, entitled *The Scarlet Feather*. Hearty laughter is the accompaniment to the performance of the sketch called *Mashing the Missus*, which is represented by Mr Horace Mills, Mr W. H. Rawlins, and company. Mr Mills revels in the part of Binks, a butler, who is urged on by his master for certain reasons to make love to "the missus," a fashionable type of woman. Binks obeys with too much zeal to please his master, and as the lady pretends to encourage his amorous overtures there is trouble which, however, ceases when she explains to her irate husband that she saw him hiding behind a screen, and coming to the conclusion that it was all a plot decided to be even with him. Mr W. H. Rawlins, who is the author of this "comedy oddity," as it is described, appears as Mr Drinkwater, and plays the part excellently. The "missus" has a capital representative in Miss E. Hill, and Miss A. May adds considerably to the fun as Sally Dabbs, a servant. Another clever and amusing playlet is that presented by Miss May Edouin and Mr Fred Edwards, entitled *A Bachelor's Dream*. In this Miss Edouin, in the part of a nurse in attendance upon an interesting invalid in the person of a young man, represents four entirely different characters, namely Lum Lum, a Chinese maiden; Harriet Simpson, a coster girl; Carmencita, a Spanish damsel; and Betty, the young lady who has been chosen as the invalid's future wife. The bachelor's dream proves to be a troubled one, as each of the charmers in turn claims him as her husband, and he is much relieved when he wakes up. Miss Edouin acts with much brightness and charm, and she is ably supported by Mr F. Edwards. A hearty welcome is extended to Mr Will Evans, whose speech on the "fiscal question" fairly bristles with comical points. He also continues to score with his funny song "The Barmaid's Lament," which was inspired by the suggested abolition of all female attendants behind the bar. Mr Arthur Reece meets, as usual, with a good reception. Attired in an Eton suit, he sings "Seventeen years old to-day," and then in the character of a horse trainer he does well with a ditty which has references to prominent politicians. Mr Charles Prelle turns his skill as a ventriloquist to novel account with his clever performing dogs, which he successfully employs in the place of the usual figures. The Sisters O'Meers give a wire performance which is greatly admired, one of them introducing a novelty in the form of a cake walk in mid-air. Mr Charles Lilburn sings a humorous song concerning things he does not want, and Miss May Sullivan scores with her Irish ditty "There's only room for one." Mr Charles Austin's highwayman song is a successful venture, and Allis and Cassati are a funny couple who prosper in their mirth-making mission. One of them sings well and the other is a neat dancer. Mr John Christie is the alert acting-manager here; and the attention of visitors to this handsome place of entertainment is called to the fact that an oriental tearoom has been provided for their use on the ground floor.

THE BRITANNIA.

Under the management of Mr Thomas Barrasford the Britannia as a variety theatre continues to offer an excellent entertainment to the residents of Hoxton and neighbourhood. The house has only reverted to its original use, for when it was first opened as the Britannia Saloon by Mr Lane on Easter Monday, 1841, the attraction was a variety programme, the principal features of which were opera and vaudeville, a grand concert, a laughable farce, a ballet, and rope and other dancing. "Neither talent nor expense is spared" was the somewhat ambiguous statement contained in the advertisement; and to each purchaser of a shilling seat in the upper stalls was given a refreshment ticket. What the refreshment comprised history fails to inform us. Even during Mrs Lane's long and prosperous reign a few varieties were nearly always sandwiched between the more substantial items of the bill-of-fare. The drama, once the chief attraction, is now only represented by a sensational sketch by Mr Arthur St. John, entitled *True at Heart*, in which the author gives a telling embodiment of Capt. Patrick Stewart, described as a "gamester and ne'er-do-well." Mr Edwin Fergusson and Mr James Dunlop, both former members of the old Britannia stock company, do well as Sir Harry Lovell and Peter Berry, a money-grasping hypocritical servant. Mr Archie Grant ably sustains the rôle of Sir George Ingoldsby, a country gentleman. Miss Ida St. John is successful as Dorothy Ingoldsby, whose abduction forms an exciting incident of the playlet, and Miss Kitty Bennett as Lucy completes the cast. "Iris," a mimic transformation act, occupies the first place in the programme. Iris is a young lady described as "the best friend" of an old American farmer, but she is in love with a famous artist. When the curtain rises Iris is impatiently waiting for her young lover; but after a while decides to pen a note to him, which she leaves on a table. Alfred arrives and is disappointed at not finding Iris. He gets tired of waiting and disappears. The next arrival is the old farmer, who seems to know where Iris is likely to be found. Alfred returns, and searches the house for the girl. He is apprised by the noise and the sound of voices of the presence of a stranger in her room. Mad with jealousy, he looks through the key-hole to see his Iris with another. He determines to seek revenge, catches hold of a revolver lying on the table, and rushes into the room. Two shots are heard. The girl mortally wounded, re-enters and makes an attempt to plead for mercy, but her strength fails, and, falling to the ground, she expires. The young lady, who represents the three characters, gives a dance each time she appears, and her performance is received with loud applause. Mr Mant Marvin achieves success as an eccentric musical performer with a quaint appearance and manner. Music is not usually associated with such commonplace articles as saucepans and pudding basins, but Mr Marvin contrives to play popular melodies upon them. He also introduces quite a novelty in pianos, an invention of his own. Mr Dave Marion, eccentric comedian, has an assistant in the audience, whose mission it is to interrupt occasionally. Mr Marion has a good deal of funny patter, and concludes with a song illustrative of the craze for walking. As the chorus is being sung a motley crowd rushes helter-skelter across the stage, and the scene becomes a very animated one. Lord, Murray, and Lord appear in their comedy athletic act entitled *The Intruder*. In addition to a capital display of boxing a good deal of fun is introduced by the comedian of the trio. A smart exhibition of ball punching is also given. The two young ladies known as May and Belle are lively duettists and dancers; and Miss Lily Lonsdale, a soprano vocalist, sings a favourite Irish ballad with much charm. Mr Ernie Myers, comedian, scores with patter and song; Mr Sid Bandon does well with a descriptive song in which he appears in the character of a loafer who has seen better days. Miss Dora Clifford pleases the audience with a spirited song and dance, and a new sporting act called *All in a Garden Fair* also figures in the programme. The names of the lady and gentleman who appear in it are not given in the bill. The former distinguishes herself as a contortionist and posturer, and the latter introduces a wonderfully clever little dog called Rosie which obeys the word of command as if she understood all that was said to her. The entertainment concludes with a display of animated pictures. The orchestra here is under the direction of Mr J. T. Bodin, and Mr A. R. Hollands is the resident manager.

MR. TOM LEAMORE'S CONTRACTS.

In the Court of Chancery, on Tuesday, before Mr Justice Farwell, Mr Tom Leamore, the comedian, was sued by the Hackney and Shepherd's-bush Empire Palaces, Limited, who sought to restrain him from breaking a covenant entered into by him not to appear at any rival hall within a radius of two miles from the date of signing the contract to the date of fulfilment.

Mr Upjohn, K.C., and Mr Dunham appeared for the plaintiff company; and Mr Robert Wallace, K.C., and Mr Cozens Hardy for the defendant.

Counsel said plaintiffs gave two performances a night, and it was essential that the shows should be novel.

Mr Justice Farwell—I have just been told, Mr Upjohn, that you require novelties; that it is essential for your success.

Mr Upjohn replied that the reason was that his clients did not put before the public Shakespeare's plays, problem plays, or plays which gave people what the French called "a furious little think." Songs were sometimes sung respecting which a learned judge in another court expressed surprise that they could even be copyrighted. Freshness and novelty were essential because the hall was a suburban one, and depended on the surrounding population. "Star" artists were the great attraction, and minor performers filled up the gaps between the appearances. Counsel believed that Mr Leamore was a bright and particular star in this firmament. Some of the brighter and more particular stars were engaged five, six, or seven years ahead, and the managers of suburban halls were faced with the difficulty that what might be bright and sparkling at the time of the contract might be flat and stale when the time of fulfilment came. To make it bright and fresh for Hackney the plaintiffs made it a term of their agreement with artists, and it was a clause that had been universally adopted that they should not appear at any hall in the neighbourhood prior to the date of the engagement. The salary also was raised, and Mr Leamore, who would get £8 or £10 a-week for a turn in central London, got £25 a-week at Hackney. Taking it all round, the salaries gained by music hall performers were enough to make the mouth of a mere Chancery King's counsel water. Defendant appeared at the Britannia, Hoxton, and other places within the two miles and within the prohibited period. The defence was that the clause relied on was in restraint of trade, unreasonable, oppressive, and against public policy, though it was difficult to see what public policy was helped by Mr Leamore's songs and dances.

Mr Oswald Stoll, managing director of the plaintiff company and one of the managing directors of Moss' Empires, Limited, stated that for over twenty-five years part of his business had been in arranging the agreements with artistes. He controlled several halls in London, and what was known as the Stoll tour; some of them had no liquor licence, and they tried to make up for the absence by the merit of the entertainment. At suburban halls they changed the programme, at the central halls they changed the audience.

Mr Upjohn—I think it is admitted the plaintiff is a star.

Witness—Mr Leamore will admit that.

Mr George Scott, manager of the Alhambra, in the course of cross-examination, expressed the opinion that if an artist appeared to-day it would diminish his value three years hence. He would not have a man appear at his hall who had appeared at a rival establishment within three years.

Mr Wallace argued that the restriction was unreasonable both in the interests of the public and of the artist. The public interest was an important element, and it was not reasonable for the public to be debarred from seeing an artist for a number of years. Probably more people went to music halls than to hear Wagner. "This," counsel added, "is a wide world, this music hall world, so I am informed." Think of the people of Hackney being deprived of Mr Leamore till 1912!

Mr Justice Farwell—Your public, for whom you are so eloquent, desire novelty. Is it not to their benefit to have novelty than to have the peach with the bloom off?

Mr Wallace—If Mr Leamore were a sort of monthly visitor, the bloom might come off the peach.

Mr Tom Leamore gave evidence that he had been more than twenty years in the profession. Six months was the usual length of time in the Stoll contracts for an artist to be barred from other halls, and he did not know it was longer than that in the contract in question till the plaintiffs tried to stop him working the Britannia. His usual salary was £35 to £40 a-week.

Mr Upjohn—When you have been away from a place for a time, is there not all the greater rush to see you when you come back again?—I should think not; the more they see of you the more they want to see.

In answer to further questions, defendant asserted that if he or any other artiste kept strictly to the terms of Mr Stoll's contract they could not live in London.

Mr Justice Farwell said that he had had evidence to show that novelty was the breath of life of music hall entertainment. There was nothing unreasonable in the contract. It did not appear to be oppressive or against public policy. An injunction would be granted with costs.

MUSIC HALL BENEVOLENT FUND AND MUSIC HALL HOME.

Collected by Miss Vulcana (Atlas and Vulcana) aboard the R.M.S. Omrah, from Australia to Marseilles, subscriptions on behalf of the M.H.B.F. and the M.H.H. Total, £7.

	£.	s.	d.
Will Atlas	0	5	0
Nemo	0	5	0
Capt. Kettle	0	5	0
Josheah Cheeks, R.N.	0	5	0
W. Tobin	0	5	0
E. G. Price	0	5	0
A. Grey	0	5	0
A. G. W.	0	5	0
Bloke	0	5	0
Vulcana	0	4	0
H. R. Sandilane	0	4	0
E. Bediky	0	3	0
M Blakely	0	2	6
H. Beeching	0	2	6
?	0	2	6
Miss Ikelaby	0	2	6
Victoria	0	2	6
Rajah Bhong	0	2	6
Bertram	0	2	6
Your Flat	0	2	6
A. S. W.	0	2	6
N. W. G.	0	2	6
G. H. Glétattle	0	2	6
F F.	0	2	6
M. B.	0	2	6
A. Touch	0	2	6
M'Intyre	0	2	6
B. F.	0	2	6
E. S. W.	0	2	6
E. Taylor	0	2	0
W. Gregory Hunt	0	2	0
Y. T.	0	2	0
Seymour	0	2	0
E. H. Satr	0	2	0
A. Lovett	0	2	0
F. O. Lock	0	2	0
M. Kirkart	0	1	0
A. Taylor	0	1	0
A. Aylward	0	1	0
Ward	0	1	0
Miss Holland	0	1	0
Miss Coates	0	1	0
E. J. Coote	0	1	0
A. B. C.	0	1	0
Me	0	1	0
X. Y. Z.	0	1	0
J. M.	0	1	0
Boughton	0	1	0
Engineer	0	1	0
G. B.	0	1	0
W. Talbot	0	1	0
A. Balmer	0	1	0
Paris	0	1	0
"Shee"	0	1	0
Jean Miller	0	1	0
G. W. Edwards	0	1	0
Tried	0	1	0
Monc, Snooks	0	1	0
C. O'Mulley	0	1	0
B.	0	1	0
S.	0	1	0
G. Johnson	0	1	0
N.	0	0	6
W. A. Geo	0	0	6
A. H.	0	0	6

MUSIC HALL SKETCHES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I ask the hospitality of your columns to answer a statement that appeared in your issue of the 18th inst. on behalf of the Theatrical Managers' Association, containing the following matter:—

All attempts at compromise have so far been on the part of the theatre managers, who always have been, and still are, desirous of arriving at an amicable agreement; but the music hall proprietors have rejected all the proposals made to them, and insist on being permitted to play stage plays without a licence practically to such an extent as they think proper.

Once more, with the view to avoiding further proceedings, a general meeting of the theatre managers was recently held, when, notwithstanding the "stubborn" attitude of the music hall proprietors, it was determined to offer one more compromise, and to abstain from prosecution, if the music hall proprietors would agree to limit their performances to sketches having six principals, or speaking parts, sixteen supers, with a time limit of thirty minutes certain, and with no limit as to scenes. If this is not accepted it can only mean that music hall proprietors mean to continue to break the law.

The following facts speak for themselves:—

During the month of January some impossible compromises were offered by the solicitors, Messrs Stanley, Woodhouse, and Co., on behalf of the Theatrical Managers' Association, to the solicitor of the London Entertainments Association, Mr Philip Rutland.

These it was impossible to accept.

On Jan. 29 Mr Graydon, the honorary secretary of our association, wrote Mr Blackmore, asking for a conference of a few members of each association. This was replied to by a letter from the solicitors, again demanding that we should accept conditions before entering into conference.

On Feb. 11 Mr Graydon wrote again suggesting a conference, with the same result. Our conditions have always been the lines laid down by the Select Committee of '92.

On March 8 a letter was received from the secretary of the Theatre Managers' Association, suggesting an appointment for a conference on March 15 between the two associations, to discuss the new regulations affecting places of entertainment made by the L.C.C., ignoring the sketch question.

On March 10 our secretary replied, stating we would gladly meet the members of the Theatres' Association on the subject, but asking that the sketch question should first be dealt with and settled.

On March 11 the secretary, Mr Blackmore, replied that their members agreed to this condition.

On March 15 we met and discussed the point at variance for over three hours, and the impression with which our members left the conference is detailed in the following extract, which was sent the next day to Mr Blackmore, the secretary of the Association, after being approved of by my members, as being a correct version of what transpired at the conference. This was addressed to the presiding chairman of the Theatre Managers' Association for their next council meeting.

I desire to thank the chairman and members of your committee for their courtesy and patience at yesterday's interview. I trust this meeting will at least have one good effect—to clear up misconceptions.

I understood the meeting yesterday to be prepared to recommend to their council that the time limit for sketches should be thirty minutes. We are prepared to insert in our contract a time limit for thirty minutes, providing we have the verbal understanding of the members of your association that they would not institute prosecutions if this is exceeded by five minutes. This is to an extent in justice to the contract we hold. The number of speaking parts on the same lines as recommended by the select committee. Accessories and scenery as per requirements of each sketch.

I would make it plain to the members of your association that we propose proceeding with a Bill in Parliament to legalise our position, and that the time limit we ask for in this Bill is forty minutes, and we trust it will be understood that the arrangement come to with your members pro tem. for a lesser time will not prejudice us in proceeding with our Bill.

The members of my association have always deplored that when prosecution was decided on as to the limit being exceeded, before issuing instructions for prosecution a friendly note was not forwarded with a view to an amicable interview. This might certainly have avoided unpleasant public discussions, impolitic and unwise to both interests, in my opinion, and also led to a probable economy in expenditure.

The various matters on which during four years we have combined to mutual advantage as enumerated by me would, I feel sure, if due consideration had been given to the matter, have led to some such result.

Mr Stanley's reply to me yesterday, that he gave notice to the Palace of the prosecution, and he had nothing to do with our association, does not dispose of this point.

No reply was received until May 11, when we received a letter, suggesting a totally different compromise to the one the members we interviewed agreed to submit to their council. How, in the face of this, it can be said that every proposal of compromise emanated from the Theatres Association passes comprehension.

It will be noted that no direct reply from the secretary was sent to Mr Graydon until our services were required to discuss London County Council regulations.

That five weeks elapsed before this reply came.

That from March 16, the date of letter detailing the result of the conference, to May 11 is very nearly two months.

Finally, every condition offered by Messrs Stanley and Co. was accompanied by a request that we should tie the provincial halls. Ours is purely a London association, and has no provincial members, and no prosecutions have been instituted in the provinces.

To comply with this request is impossible, and they well know it. Our association has always looked upon any compromise as a stop-gap pending legislation. We have strenuously adhered to the recommendation of the Select Committee of 1892, which is the sum total of our Bill. That recommendation was issued after the hearing of ten witnesses for the theatres, five witnesses for the music halls, and eighteen independent witnesses.

The charge of music hall managers desiring to perform entire stage plays is best answered by the following judgments:—

Mr Paul Taylor in February last at the Southwark Police-court:—

In my opinion a breach of the law has been committed, and the prosecution, although not absolutely unjustifiable, is really by no means necessary, and might very well be avoided. Therefore I propose to inflict a penalty in this case on one summons of 20s. I do not propose to allow any costs.

And Mr Hopkins at the Lambeth Police-court in April:—

All I can say as to that is that, speaking for myself, and I hope for all of us, and for the justices throughout the country, we take but little notice of what I may call a form of crime which the authorities of the country don't proceed against, and which no one proceeds against, except the people whose pockets are touched. As I have to fix a penalty, I fix it at 40s. upon each summons. No costs.

The difference between the theatres and ourselves is this, that they desire the whole question reopened, and hence they suggest alternative legislation. I take it this is a question for the Legislature, and if another Select Committee be appointed it is doubtful whether any recommendation emanating therefrom will receive any more respect or attention from our theatrical confrères than they have bestowed upon the recommendation of 1892.

It seems paltry to take up your space with all these details, but when we are charged with being stubborn, with having privileges of standing in corridors (whatever that may mean), with promenades (which is the exception and not the rule), with drinking, when every theatre licensed by the Lord Chamberlain gets a refreshment licence as a matter of course and every music-hall does not—when it has been proved before the Select Committee that smoking in theatres takes place in the most dangerous parts of the house, when these charges are made with the obvious intent of damaging in the eyes of the public, and members of the House of Commons, an institution which is now a recognised one, I am compelled reluctantly to reply thereto in detail on behalf of the members of my association, and I trust that in doing so I have not too much trespassed either upon your valuable space or upon your patience.

Yours faithfully, HENRI GROS.
President, London Entertainments Protection Association.
Metropolitan Theatre of Varieties,
267, Edgware-road, W., June 21.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

There was laid to rest in private grave No. 9, Wimbledon Cemetery, on Tuesday, the 14th inst., Henry Wilkens Gess, aged seventy years. The deceased showman was widely known, and was one of the first Englishmen to "travel" the French fairs. The deceased, who had retired from active business, lived at Wandsworth, where he owned considerable property. Amongst the chief mourners were Mrs C. Gess, wife; Mr H. Gess, son; Mr Alf Gess, son; Mr and Mrs F. Gray, daughter; Mrs P. Campbell, daughter; Mr and Mrs Parrish, daughter; Mrs A. Gock, daughter; Miss Rebecca Gess, daughter; Mr Joe Proctor, brother-in-law; Mr and Mrs Saunders, Mrs Priscilla Penfold, Mrs Thomas, Mr and Mrs Goldsmith, Mr and Mrs Botton, Mr and Mrs Hart, Mr and Mrs Hughes, Mrs Dix, Miss Dix, Mr William Gess, nephew; Mr T. Lovell, Mr J. Boswell, &c. The deceased, who had probably visited nearly every fair in Great Britain in his time, will be best remembered with his troupe of real Zulus twenty years ago.

The next meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Association will take place at Halifax Fair. See advertisement for date and place of meeting. Most important business is on the agenda paper.

From Scotland we have news of Selkirk Fair. This historic fixture, like Hawick Common Ridings, takes us back to the stirring times of border warfare. Here were Mr Geo. Bidall's electric ghost illusion, Messrs Miller and Son's variety combination, Sahib Leo's Egyptian hall, Mr Henry Chapman's feathered artists, Prince Samonda's fine illusions. The complement of roundabouts included Messrs Wilmot and Son's farmyard roosters, Mr Walker Hoadley's British generals, Mr J. Wingate's bicycle track, Mr H. Newey's juvenile horses. The photographic establishment of Messrs Kelly, shooting saloons of Messrs M'Gregor, Miller, Matchett, and Broughton. The stall holders on the outer circle were Messrs Slater, Wilson, Riley, Miller, Broughton, Fox, Shield, and O'Brian.

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IN ENGLAND.

July 1. Conisborough	July 18. Whittlesey
July 1. Great Chesterford	July 19. Burnley
July 1. Stokeferry	July 19. Dursley
July 2. Ashover	July 20. Exeter
July 2. Barlborough	July 21. Kingsbridge
July 2. Blandford	July 21. Tipton
July 2. Bradford	July 22. Winforthing
July 2. Earby.	July 23. Attercliffe
July 2. Stainsby	July 23. Bramley
July 2. Tibshelf	July 23. Chiddingley
July 2. Wakefield	July 23. Dewsbury
July 5. Chipping Norton	July 23. Glemsford
July 5. Sampford Courtney	July 23. Hatherton
	July 23. Haworth
July 5. Tunbridge Wells	July 23. Longeight
July 6. Haxey	July 23. Nelson
July 6. Skegness	July 23. Reading
July 8. Harbottle	July 23. Stalybridge
July 8. Taunton	July 23. TempleNormanton
July 9. Leeds	July 23. Walton
July 9. Ringwood	July 23. Windhill
July 9. Selstone	July 25. Epsom
July 9. Stroud	July 25. Hockwold
July 9 Wolverhampton	July 26. Winterton
July 11. Headless Cross	July 27. Cley-next-the-Sea
July 14. Brierfield	July 27. Melksham
July 14. Winteringham	July 28. Arlesford
July 15. Chumleigh	July 29. Falmouth
July 15. Linton	July 29. King's Nympton
July 15. Salisbury	July 29. Olney
July 16. Baildon	July 30. Alfreton
July 16. Chapel-en-le-Frith	July 30. Bollington
July 16. Darwen	July 30. Compstall
July 16. Holinwood	July 30. Heyford
July 16. Holmesfield	July 30. Mellor
July 16. Tunstall	July 30. Mossley
July 18. Atherstone	July 30 Shirland
July 18. Basingstoke	July 30. Stretton
July 18. Horsham	July 30. Unsworth
July 18. Spilsby	

IN SCOTLAND.

July 1. Bridge of Allan	July 14. Johnstone
July 1. Kelso	July 18. Dundee
July 1. Perth	July 18. Forfar
July 2. Greenock	July 20. Arbroath
July 6. Galashiels	July 21. Kinross
July 6. Renfrew	July 21. Kirkcudbright
July 9. Glasgow	July 23. Edinburgh
July 9. Tedburgh	July 25. Stirling
July 9. Motherwell	July 29. Leith
July 13. Rothesay	July 30. Kilmarnock

IN WALES.

July 4. Pontypool	July 20. Tenby
July 7. Flint	

At Annfield Plain, Co. Durham, last week, Walter Murphy's magnificent electric switchback railway was in great demand by the pit folk of the district; shooting saloons of Messrs Potts, Chapman, and Toogood provided sport for the guns; Chapman's miniature riding school, Newsome's swings, and minor concerns of Messrs Mitchison, Walker, Campbell, Toogood, Rowley.

At Sacriston Brass Band Contest were W. and B. Murphy's gondola set, Spencer's air-ship, over boats, and swings; Gess, the athlete; fair ground novelties by Messrs Strand, O'Brian, Kelly, Bliss, A. Carroll, and A. Towers.

Lord John Sanger and Sons, Limited, are showing their Royal Hippodrome and Menagerie in Plymouth Exhibition Fields this week. Annetto, the flying cyclist, and the De Burstow Troupe of wire-walkers and dancers are among the attractions. The Crotchet Troupe present a clever turn entitled *Musical Moments*, in which they are very clever.

At Worcester we have had Clarke's circular switchback railway, park swings, shooting saloons, &c.; F. Wilson's African Jungle, and E. Taylor's varieties.

At Badsey we have Ayers' steam ostriches, swing boats, shooting saloons, bottle shooters, and cokernuts.

The People's Theatre (Mr J. Orton Hayes, proprietor), at the Carmarthen Pleasure Fairground, has again been well patronised during the week. *Poor Joe* and *Cartouche* were the pieces selected for representation, and the dramatic company performed their respective parts exceedingly well, under the direction of Mr J. H. Clinch, stage-manager. Miss Abbe Hayler, serio-comic vocalist and dancer, is the "turn" this week, and her efforts are much enjoyed.

Mr Charles Urban has secured some fine Bioscope scenes of the Toronto fire. One of his representatives happened to be in the Ontario capital on the night of the outbreak, and photographed the conflagration by the light of its own illumination. Mr Urban hopes to be able to exhibit this film at the Alhambra in about a week's time, when he will also show a new series of Russian and Japanese pictures.

INFORMATION relating to Shows and Fairs, suitable for this column, should be addressed to THE EDITOR, "The Showman World."

THE company, staff, and friends of the Shepherd's Bush Empire will take their first summer outing to-morrow (Sunday). Lunch at the Berkeley Arms Hotel, Cranford-bridge, at 1·30 p.m.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, MAY 10.—*Little Lord Fauntleroy*, in which Mr W. F. Hawtrey is the Earl Dor ncourt, is pleasing the Criterion audiences greatly. The experienced actor gives a polished portraiture of the aristocrat. The Little Lord Fauntleroy is one Master Sydney Halliday, and seldom has a boy so thoroughly realised a boy's part on the stage. Master Halliday made a most favourable impression. Miss Mabel Lane was Mrs Errol, and her natural sweetness was never made more manifest. Mr Gregan M'Mahon supplied an ideal Lawyer Havisham, and Mr Olly Deering was an enjoyable Silas Hobbs. As the adventuress, Minna, Miss Mary Bancroft made a new departure, and it was well made by the lady. Miss Winifred Austin was the Bootblack, and Miss Emma Bronson, Mr G. W. Elton, Mr O. P. Heggie, and Mr Leonard Stanley filled in the picture with carefully acted minor parts.

"THE LIGHT THAT FAILED" has shown Sydney the very best acting yet given us by Mr Cuyler Hastings and Miss May Chevalier, and in the next best characters we have Miss Olga Beatty-Kingston and Mr Hamilton Stewart. This quartet would be hard to beat in these rôles, and, and as the play undoubtedly is, it could run for some time yet but for Mr J. C. Williamson's constant desire for giving his patrons variety, and "lots of it." To-morrow afternoon and evening *The Lady of Lyons* will be revived, *The Christian* on Thursday and Friday, and on Saturday Mr Cuyler Hastings will again be seen in his well-known part, Sherlock Holmes, with the whole of the original cast.

"THE GREAT MILLIONAIRE" bids fair to break Mr Bland Holt's record. The hugely attractive melodrama, full of sensation and surprise, suffices to satisfy succeeding audiences without necessity for change. *The Golden Ladder* is, however, in rehearsal as the next production at the Royal.

AT the Tivoli Mr Nat Clifford is greeted with loud applause every time he appears, and he is recalled eight or nine times. The rest of the big programme is as previously notified, but other novelties are to follow in quick succession.

VULJANA AND ATLAS left on Sunday night. The lady has been very ill, but a rest, it is hoped, will restore her.

"LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD" will finish at the Palace on the 13th, and then go to Newcastle. Mr Willie Perman, the sole remaining member of the original company, is recovering, a source of great satisfaction to his wife, Miss Isabel Webster, and the public in general.

FITZGERALD'S CIRCUS still "booms" with, as chief attractions, the Japanese wrestlers and Dr. Gordon, the "strong man."

THE Pierrots have done well in going to the Queen's Hall, which suits their performance perfectly.

THE London Gaiety company, under engagement to Mr J. C. Williamson, passed through Sydney on Sunday en route for Victoria. The company includes Miss Madge Crichton, Miss Delia Mason, Miss Maud Hobson (an old favourite here), Miss Eva Kelly, Miss Angy Edwardine, Miss Barbara Huntley, and Miss Kathleen Warren. Messrs G. P. Huntley, Maurice Farkoa, Jack Frazer, George Carroll, George St. George, and Ambrose Miller. The conductor is Mr Frank Tours, and the company is in the charge of Mr G. T. Steyne. A harbour picnic was given to the new-comers by Mr J. C. Williamson, his place, in his absence, being taken by Mr G. L. Goodman.

MISS ANNETTE KELLERMANN, champion swimmer, and daughter of Madame Charbonnet Kellermann, met with a serious accident at her benefit—prior to going to America—in Melbourne on Saturday night. A support of her diving platform gave way, and Miss Kellerman fell head first into a tank.

SYDNEY, MAY 17.—*The Lady of Lyons*, for two performances, and a revival of *The Christian* were followed by a return of *Sherlock Holmes* on Saturday. The detective was, as before, in the hands of Mr Cuyler Hastings, whose acting in this is only surpassed by his Dick in *The Light that Failed*. The strong company under Mr J. C. Williamson's control was ably stage-managed by Mr J. W. Hazlitt, and their old parts were again acted by Misses May Chevalier, Mabel Lane and Minnie Terry and Messrs Lumsden Hare, J. B. Atholwo'd (a fine Professor Moriarty), Edmund Gwenn (whose Sydney Prince shared the honours of the evening with Mr Hastings' Holmes) T. W. Lloyd, Rege Carey, and H. Hamilton Stewart.

"LITTLE LORD FAUNTLEROY," at the Criterion, with *The Lady of Ostend* and *Tom, Dick, and Harry*, preceded by *A Highland Legacy*, will fill in the last nights of Mr W. F. Hawtrey's season here, and on the 21st *The Marriage of Kitty* will be staged by Mr J. C. Williamson's new comedy company.

"THE GREAT MILLIONAIRE," for some inexplicable reason, is to be withdrawn from the Royal stage by Mr Bland Holt, and *The Golden Ladder* presented with all the completeness usual with Mr Holt on the 21st. The booking is unusually heavy.

MR GEORGE STEPHENSON'S musical comedy company, organised by Mr Edward Lauri, will open at the Lyceum on the 28th with *A Lady from the Riviera*. Mr Lauri has made engagements for Mr Stephenson extending to 1908. In the interim fresh faces and new comedies will appear in rapid succession.

THE Nawn Vaudeville Company made its first appearance under the direction of Mr James G. Rial on the 14th, and met with instantaneous success. Admission was refused half an hour before starting time. An old favourite Mr Peter F. Baker (here twenty-four years ago with Tom Farren) had an overwhelming reception, and his clever impersonations were loudly redemanded. Mr and Mrs Tom Nawn were warmly welcomed back in their natural sketch, *A Touch of Nature*, and amongst the rest were the Musical Johnstones, the Tossing Austins, Miss Ethel Holdsworth, Miss Katharine Dahl, and Miss Dorothy Drew. All these are "star" artists in their particular lines, and the whole show is free—absolutely free—from vulgarity. Mr A. Clark is business manager, and Mr James Johnstone is conductor.

THE Tivoli has now the strongest bill provided, even by Mr Harry Rickards, for a Sydney audience. On the 14th, Jack Carkeek, champion wrestler, made his début, and floored all antagonists. Then come the comic entertainer, Nat Clifford; the clever and fascinating Miss May Moore Duprez, quaint Silly Billy Elliott, the Two Bells, the Six Empire Girls, Irving Sayles, Les Wharton, Freda Maher, Daisy Sylvester, Emmie Smith, George Scott, James Opie, Harry Leggett, Cecile Stephano, and the Smith Sisters, altogether a most attractive list.

FITZGERALD BROTHERS CIRCUS has its tent full of enthusiastic admirers of equine and athletic cleverness. The Japanese Consul attended last night, and presented the prizes won at recent wrestling contests. Duckworth, champion leaper, and Dr. Gordon, the strong man, attract and astonish.

AT the Theatre Royal, Wednesbury, Mr George Steel's company is appearing with *Monte Cristo*. Mr Ernest Keand in the rôle of Edmond Dantès is excellent, Mr George Steel as the Baron Danglars plays in masterly style, as Fernand Mr Villiers Stanley is seen to advantage, Mr Ernest Regent supplies an artistic portrayal of Albert De Morcerf, Mr Fred Fosco as De Villiers and Mr Wm. H. Melrose as Caderousse are excellently suited in their respective parts, Miss Isca Steel makes a capital Fleuvette, and Miss Lily Winter is warmly applauded for her excellent interpretation of the Countess Danglars. Miss Kate Bruce as Mercedes and Miss Lily Winter as Corradse are also praiseworthy.

CRICKET.

THESPIDS v. LYRIC THEATRE.

Played at Acton, on Tuesday, June 14. Scores:—Lyric Theatre.—Clegg, c and b O'Connor, 9; Toppenden, ht. wkt., b O'Connor, 10; Salter, l b w, b Lockner, 3; Conway Tearle, b Lockner, 2; Stephens, b O'Connor, 2; Carlo, b Lockner, 4; Tearle, c Lockner, b O'Connor, 0; Bracey, not out, 0; Thompson, st. Hughes, b O'Connor, 0; Bennett, c Homewood, b Lockner, 6; Bowes, b O'Connor, 10; extras, 5; total, 51.

Thespids.—A. S. Homewood, c Thompson, b Toppenden, 5; F. Stayton, c Toppenden, b Stephens, 8; H. Meymott, b Clegg, 21; V. O'Connor, c Salter, b Clegg, 3; L. Lockner, c Clegg, b Toppenden, 27; S. Mills, b Tearle, 2; H. Mills, c Humphries, b Tearle, 2; H. Hughes, b Toppenden, 2; P. Darwin, not out, 7; A. G. Stacey, b Toppenden, 9; F. Lister, b Toppenden, 2; extras, 9; total, 97.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS v. BRISTOL EARLY CLOSERS ATHLETIC CLUB.

Played on Clifton Downs, on June 15. Scores:—Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs.—A. Hamlin (captain), b Hedges, 2; L. Hamlin, b Hedges, 0; J. Lewis, b Hedges, 5; H. Hare, b Hedges, 0; E. Belding, b Hedges, 3; H. Edwards, c Denty, b Yandell, 2; H. Belding, b Hedges, 8; E. Bowman, b Hedges, 0; A. Cox, b Yandell, 1; J. Aubrey, not out, 3; S. Carter, b Hedges, 0; extras, 12; total, 36.

Bristol Early Closers Athletic Club.—F. Bartlett, l b w, b Hare, 5; T. Perry, b H. Belding, 9; S. Coombes, b H. Belding, 4; A. Rossiter, b Hare, 1; B. Yandell, b Hare, 27; E. Brooks, c Aubrey, b Hare, 3; G. Hedges (captain), run out, 15; W. Vowles, b H. Belding, 21; T. Perry, b H. Belding, 8; D. Rogers, not out, 15; extras, 10; total (for nine wickets), 118. T. Willis did not bat.

THESPIDS v. "DAILY MAIL" XI.

Played at Sutton on Thursday, June 16. Scores:—"Daily Mail."—R. Bailey, c Holland, b O'Connor, 2; J. Harrison, c Holland, b Warner, 6; V. G. Harmsworth, c O'Connor, b Warner, 0; W. Meek, b O'Connor, 1; M. Pemberton, b O'Connor, 6; Major P. Trevor, b O'Connor, 2; G. L. Jessop, c Smith, b Cameron, 46; W. Hay, c Homewood, b O'Connor, 20; E. C. Bell, b Cameron, 2; E. West, c Smith, b O'Connor, 0; P. Ward, run out, 2; W. D. Chamberlain, not out, 0; extras, 9; total, 96

Thespids.—A. S. Homewood, c Chamberlain, b Harmsworth, 5; A. M. Latham, c Trevor, b Jessop, 18; V. O'Connor, c Bell, b Harmsworth, 5; C. A. Smith, c and b Jessop, 62; H. B. Warner, c Chamberlain, b Harmsworth, 48; Leslie Holland, l b w, b Harmsworth, 7; B. Egerton, c Pemberton, b Harmsworth, 12; E. Cameron, b Harmsworth, 12; A. G. Stacey, c Hay, b Harmsworth, 0; Frank Stayton, not out, 15; W. West, b Jessop, 2; extras, 21; total, 197.

THESPIDS v. THE WANDERERS.

Played at Acton, on Friday, June 17. Scores:—Wanderers.—S. Colman, c Hughes, b O'Connor, 7; D. L. A. Jephson, c Hughes, b Holland, 0; M. Baker, c Meymott, b O'Connor, 2; H. M. Langdale, b Holland, 7; A. M. Latham, b Holland, 6; P. P. Lincoln, b O'Connor, 5; E. H. Fischer, c and b Holland, 5; G. R. Blades, b Holland, 3; A. W. Boultbee, not out, 4; Sir C. Moon, b O'Connor, 0; A. L. S. Rose, b O'Connor, 0; extras, 6; total, 45

Thespids.—S. Mills, c Blades, b Colman, 12; P. Darwin, b Jephson, 39; E. P. Payne, st Latham, b Jephson, 0; V. O'Connor, b Colman, 18; C. A. Smith, c Langdale, b Rose, 18; H. J. Hughes, b Rose, 8; L. Holland, c Langdale, b Jephson, 3; A. S. Homewood, c Rose, b Jephson, 1; H. A. Meymott, b Jephson, 1; Conway Tearle, not out, 1; S. Carlo, b Jephson, 0; extras, 4; total, 104.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. C.C. v. MUSIC HALLS C.C.

Played on Clifton Downs on June 18. Scores:—Bristol X.L.C.R. C.C.—T. Smith, b O'Connor, 1; J. Lewis, b O'Connor, 3; H. Slade, b Nicholls, 9; H. Hare (captain), b Nicholls, 0; E. Belding, b Nicholls, 1; A. E. Bailey, b Nicholls, 8; E. Bowman, b O'Connor, 1; H. Belding, b Nicholls, 22; J. Aubrey, l b w, b Nicholls, 9; S. Carter, b Nicholls, 2; W. Miller, not out, 5; extras, 14; total, 75.

Music Halls C.C.—B. Cullen, b Hare, 0; J. Stuart (captain) b Hare, 0; T. Neagle, b Hare, 7; P. Reardon, c Lewis, b H. Belding, 1; F. Hansford, b H. Belding, 5; W. Meadows, b H. Belding, 0; T. Denton, b H. Belding, 0; D. O'Connor, b Bailey, 7; F. Boyce, b H. Belding, 0; F. B. Nicholls, b Hare, 16; F. Arni, not out, 0; extras, 7; total, 43

MISS LILLIE BELDING'S LADIES ATHLETIC TEAM v. COTHAM AND REDLAND LADIES ATHLATIC CLUB

Played near Clifton Downs, on June 18. Scores:—Miss Lillie Belding's Ladies Athletic Team.—Miss L. Carter, b Miss Bradley, 4; Miss M. Stuart, b Miss Bradley, 0; Miss C. Fowler, b Miss Bradley, 13; Miss N. Bailey, b Miss Bradley, 7; Miss A. Bernard, b Miss Fisher, 2; Miss L. Clayton, b Miss Bradley, 0; Miss E. Francis, b Miss Bradley, 0; Miss I. Bowman, b Miss Bradley, 1; Miss L. Belding (captain), b Miss Bradley, 4; Miss E. Bowman, run out, 4; Miss F. Smith, b Miss Bradley, 0; total, 35

Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club.—Miss L. Norris, b Miss Belding, 1; Miss A. Gibbs, b Miss Belding, 0; Miss N. Maguire, b Miss Fowler, 5; Miss G. Thomas, run out, 2; Miss K. Montgomery (captain), b Miss Fowler, 15; Miss W. Bradley, b Miss Fowler, 3; Miss L. Coles, c Miss Bailey, b Miss Fowler, 1; Miss F. Hooper, b Miss Belding, 0; Miss N. Lawrence, b Miss Belding, 8; Miss M. Fisher, b Miss Fowler, 2; Miss E. Lawrence, b Miss Fowler, 6; total, 43.

THESPIDS v. CONINGSBY C.C.

Played at West London, on June 19. Scores:—Thespids—Sydenham Dixon, run out, 0; E. Cameron, b Mignon, 77; V. O'Connor, b Mignon, 4; P. Darwin, c Emmanuel, b Mignon, 5; A. G. Stacey, c Jacobs, b Mignon, 5; H. G. Hughes, b Emmanuel, 36; Conway Tearle, lbw, b Mignon, 39; G. S. Tearle, b Emmanuel, 0; T. S. Williams, c Cunningham, b Mignon, 1; G. Hodgson, not out, 1; A. E. Drinkwater, c Pole, b Mignon, 4; extras, 27; total, 216.

Coningsby.—W. Moss, lbw, b Cameron, 1; Curran, b O'Conner, 0; Cunningham, c Darwin, b O'Connor, 40; Mignon, b Cameron, 12; Waldron, lbw, b Williams, 40; Emmanuel, b O'Connor, 12; Pole, b Cameron, 37; Jacobs, c and b O'Connor, 10; Moss, c Tearle, b O'Connor, 0; Lewis, c Hughes, b O'Connor, 8; Davidson, not out, 0; extras, 7. Total, 167.

"SATURDAY TO MONDAY" v. NEW-CROSS EMPIRE.

Played at Blackheath last week. Scores:—"Saturday to Monday."—Fletch, 0; Moroney, 0; Palmer, 2; Storrs, 43; Mittsdale, 1; Lloyd, 38; Helm, 14; Mills, 8; Taylor, 3; Illingworth, 0; M'Mair, 15; extras, 16; total, 140.

New-cross Empire.—Mauby, 6; Harris, 10; Russell, 0; Hare, 28; Seeton, 3; Bell, 0; Gordon, 0; Shackleton, 1; Foord, 1; Raymond, 1; Wedgewood, 2; extras, 4; total, 56.

"THE PRINCE OF ZANZIBAR," an original farce in three acts, by C. W. Bell, was recently performed for copyright purposes at the Bijou Theatre, under the auspices of the International Copyright Bureau, Limited. The said Bureau has also copyrighted the play in Washington, and undertaken its translation into French, German, and Italian.

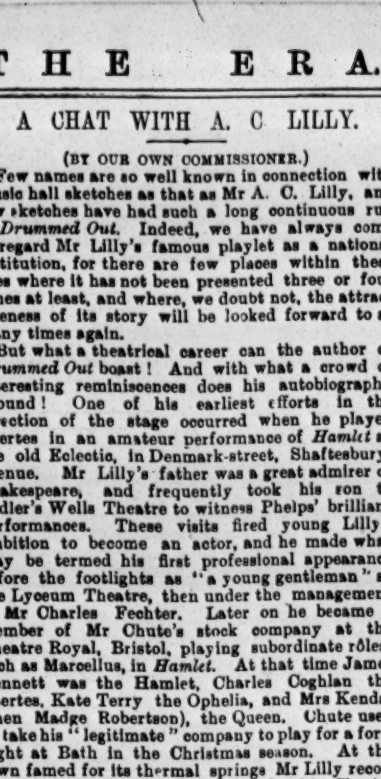
BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of Brown's Bronchial Troches. People troubled with a hacking cough, a slight cold, or bronchial affections cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious pulmonary and asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government stamp around each box. Sold by Chemists everywhere, 1s. 1½d. per Box.—[ADVT.]

A CHAT WITH A. C. LILLY.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

Few names are so well known in connection with music hall sketches as that as Mr A. C. Lilly, and few sketches have had such a long continuous run as *Drummed Out*. Indeed, we have always come to regard Mr Lilly's famous playlet as a national institution, for there are few places within these isles where it has not been presented three or four times at least, and where, we doubt not, the attractiveness of its story will be looked forward to as many times again.

But what a theatrical career can the author of *Drummed Out* boast! And with what a crowd of interesting reminiscences does his autobiography abound! One of his earliest efforts in the direction of the stage occurred when he played Laertes in an amateur performance of *Hamlet* at the old Eclectic, in Denmark-street, Shaftesbury-avenue. Mr Lilly's father was a great admirer of Shakespeare, and frequently took his son to Sadler's Wells Theatre to witness Phelps' brilliant performances. These visits fired young Lilly's ambition to become an actor, and he made what may be termed his first professional appearance before the footlights as "a young gentleman" at the Lyceum Theatre, then under the management of Mr Charles Fechter. Later on he became a member of Mr Chute's stock company at the Theatre Royal, Bristol, playing subordinate rôles, such as Marcellus, in *Hamlet*. At that time James Bennett was the Hamlet, Charles Coghlan the Laertes, Kate Terry the Ophelia, and Mrs Kendal (then Madge Robertson), the Queen. Chute used to take his "legitimate" company to play for a fortnight at Bath in the Christmas season. At the town famed for its thermal springs Mr Lilly recollects with pleasure that he played with Charles Kean and Charles Mathews. But it was at Bristol that the opportunity of a lifetime came to young Mr Lilly. One evening he was about to accompany a "brother utility" on a short walking expedition when a call-boy handed in a note from Mr Chute requesting Lilly to prepare the part of Horatio for the following evening's performance. Recollections of the old Eclectic Theatre immediately entered Mr Lilly's mind, and he wrote back to Mr Chute stating that he had once played Laertes—not troubling to mention where—and that he would be pleased to undertake this character if desired. The famous Bristol manager immediately replied agreeing to Mr Lilly's proposal, and the result was a letter-perfect study of the part at the rehearsal the next morning. At the evening's show Mr Lilly received a special call and a gratifying addition of five shillings to his salary at the end of the week. After that work was put upon him "thick and fast," as he expresses it. He had to share the juvenile parts with the first walking gentlemen, and was re-engaged for the following



MR. A. C. LILLY.

season entirely for juvenile business. Mr Lilly here wishes to record his gratitude to Mr W. H. Vernon, who was the leading man and stage-manager. "To his good advice and tuition," says the interviewee, "I owe not a little of the advancement I afterwards made in the profession. I shall never forget the great personal interest he seemed to take in my work." When Mr Lilly finally left Bristol after four years with Mr Chute, it was as the leading juvenile actor of the company—no small achievement in those days. He then entered upon an engagement with Mr Nye-Chart at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, where he appeared for a season with such celebrities as Charles Mathews, Buckstone, James Fernandez, and Harry Cox. His succeeding engagement was with Mrs Charles Pitt, mother of the present Mr Felix Pitt, at the Surrey Theatre, where he appeared along with Madame Celeste and Henry Forrester in a piece called *The Watch Dogs of the Walsinghams*. During vacations he was seen at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, then in the hands of Mr James Rodgers, and a little later performed at the Adelphi and Princess's under the management of Mr Ben Webster. At the latter house he played in *The Rapparee*, written by Dion Boucicault, and in which piece the late Shiel Barry made his first pronounced London success. It was during this engagement that Mr F. B. Chatterton joined forces with Mr Webster and Mr Lilly's services were transferred to the Adelphi, where he took part in a drama by Sir (then Mr) Francis Burnand, entitled *The Lighthouse on the Karn Roof*. Another production at the Adelphi in which Mr Lilly performed notable work was his characterisation of the Captain, in Andrew Halliday's *Notre Dame*, the cast including C. C. King, James Fernandez, Britton Wright, and Mrs Alfred Mellor. Other plays of Halliday's in which Mr Lilly figured prominently were *The Wandering Jew* and *Hilda, the Miser's Daughter*. He remained for three years at the Adelphi, and it was here that he had the pleasure of meeting Charles Fechter after several years. Fechter's old dresser recognised Mr Lilly, and remembered his first appearance on the stage as a walking gentleman at the Lyceum Theatre, but under what happier circumstances was the latter now situated, for was he not playing Don Cæsar to Fechter's Ruy Blas? Mr Fechter was delighted at the progress Mr Lilly had made, and greeted him very cordially. That was Fechter's last appearance in London, for shortly afterwards he went to America, where he died. Leaving the famous Strand house of drama, Mr Lilly betook himself to the Vaudeville Theatre for a short season, where he played the part of Milford in the original revival of *The Road to Ruin*, the company possessing such able interpreters as Charles Warner, Amy Fawcett, David James, Fred Thorne and Horace Wigan. Subsequently Mr Lilly acted before the footlights of Drury-lane Theatre, under F. B. Chatterton, and served the same gentleman for some five years at the Adelphi. Leaving his west-end triumphs, he went over to the Surrey Theatre to appear in *Queen's Evidence*, in Mr William Holland's stock company, to which he faithfully adhered for four and a half years, playing, he tells us, everything from *Hamlet* downwards. Afterwards Sir (then Mr) Augustus Harris requisitioned Mr Lilly's abilities for his famous production of *The World*, which, it may be remembered, had a successful run at the Lane from August until Christmas. Mr Lilly next transferred his affections to the Crystal Palace, where he performed in pantomime under Mr Oscar Barrett, now the manager of the United Theatres Company at Manchester. At the termination of this engagement he joined Chatterton in the latter's unfortunate venture at Sadler's Wells, opening with a piece called *The Foundlings*, by Leopold Lewis, author of *The Bells*. After another experience of juvenile lead with George Conquest at the Surrey, he rejoined Sir Augustus Harris in the production of *Pluck*, and in the ensuing Christmas was re-engaged by Mr Oscar Barrett for his Crystal Palace "annual," playing there in the daytime and appearing at the Adelphi at night in Charles Reade's *Love and Money*. This was followed by a four years' tour with Sir Augustus Harris's company, in *The World, Pluck, A Sailor and his Lass, Lady Claire*, &c. Crossing over to the Pavilion Theatre, Mile-end, Mr Lilly saw a further four-and-a-half years' work with Drury-lane dramas, as well as with Mr Wilson Barrett's pieces, including *The Silver King, Hoodman Blind, Lights of London*, and *Romany Rye*. While at the Pavilion he wrote, in conjunction with Mr Fred Bowyer, a sketch entitled *The Stowaway*, which was produced at the Paragon with Jenny Hill in the title-rôle, Mr Lilly himself taking a special part. After a return engagement at the Mile-end-road playhouse he entered into partnership with Mr Henry Hampton, their first attempt at sketch-writing being a condensed version of *The Corsican Brothers*, which was also produced at the Paragon, and subsequently ran for twelve weeks at the Middlesex. Mr Lilly's next enterprise was the presentation of his own sketch *Brought to Bay*, which proved extremely popular, and was played all round London. A number of similar pieces from his pen were toured successfully, closing with a revival of *The Stowaway* at the Canterbury. And here our tale is almost at an end, for there is only one more production to speak of. We refer to what Mr Lilly styles as his "trump card"—*Drummed Out*—which first saw the footlights ten years ago, and has never ceased seeing them since, much to the clever author's personal gratification and to the credit of his banking account. It may be interesting to mention that the initial presentation of *Drummed Out* took place at the Canterbury. Mr Lilly commences his fourth Moss and Stoll tour with it in August next, after which he returns to the halls under the Payne régime. The sketch is booked for one month at the New Coliseum, on leaving which a start will be made on the fifth Moss and Stoll tour.

The subject of this interview has a striking military appearance, and one might well be mistaken in assuming at a glance that his career had been bound up with the army. Apart from the deep interest he takes in, and the strict attention he gives to every detail of his stage work, his only hobby is gardening, a subject upon which he can speak with authority.

APPEAL FOR J. H. WOOD.

Mr J. H. Wood was for many years a well-known proprietor and manager of music halls in Hull, Leeds, Empire (Bow), and others, and the first to increase artists' salaries. Mr Wood was a patient in the Middlesex Hospital, London, for two years suffering from rodent ulcer, and has undergone four operations and the loss of one eye. He is now pronounced incurable, and is at the present time an inmate of the Christie Cancer Hospital, Oxford-street, Manchester. It is proposed by a few friends to raise a sum by subscriptions and a benefit to enable him to have what the doctors advise—a complete rest and change of air by the seaside. Any sums subscribed will be acknowledged in *The Era*.

From Artistes at Empire, Swansea:—

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Vesta Tilley	0 10 6	Griff	0 2 6
Poluski Bros.	0 10 6	Will Johnson	0 2 6
Stelling and Revell	0 5 0	M. Sheridan	0 2 6

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I herewith enclose you cheque—one guinea—for Mr J. H. Wood. I have known him as manager and speculator in variety enterprises over thirty years. Always an honest plodder, faithful to his proprietors, and a friend to the performers, but unlucky.—Yours faithfully,

J. W. ROWLEY.

Empire, Cardiff, June 6.

Collected by G. Bartlett Percy:—

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Billy Richardson	0 5 0	Thos. E. Finglas	0 2 6
Welland	0 5 0	Clarke's Nippers	0 2 6
Chas. Bignell	0 5 0	Edie Anderson	0 0 6
Marrias O'Connor	0 3 0		

THE LATE JEAN STANLEY.

Subscription list for Mrs Jean Stanley, who is left entirely unprovided for by the sad death of her husband, who unceasingly struggled on as a devoted husband and father.

Collected by Mr Arthur Lennard.
Total, £5.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Arthur Lennard	1 1 0	Syd Russell	0 1 0
Fanny Fields	0 10 0	Arthur Gilbert	0 1 0
Mr Smith	0 5 0	Miss Wood	0 1 0
J. W. T.	0 5 0	Pat Carey	0 1 0
J. P. Hayes	0 2 6	G. Mount	0 1 0
Beta	0 2 6	Larola	0 1 0
H. A. Moore	0 2 6	Jas. Van Bein	0 1 0
Frame	0 2 6	Jessie Burnett	0 1 0
Sisters Anderson	0 2 6	J. P. Dane	0 1 0
Mrs Egerton	0 2 0	J. Bell and Blind Henderson	0 1 0
Mr J. W. Cook	0 2 0	W. Proybyn	0 1 0
Lackie Thomson	0 2 0	C. Homer	0 1 0
Sam Hignett	0 2 0	Abel and Welsh	0 1 0
Charlie Mildare	0 2 0	William Lee	0 1 0
J. H. F. B.	0 2 0	J. W. Rickaby	0 1 0
Harrigan and Holt	0 2 0	Denby and Dent	0 1 0
Miss M. Dupres	0 2 0	Alf Brooks	0 1 0
Two Errols	0 2 0	C. B. Whittle	0 1 0
Two Emmetts	0 2 0	Geo. Alexander	0 1 0
Georgie May	0 1 6	Walter Groves	0 1 0
Gertrella	0 1 6	Frank Leslie	0 1 0
Will Cornish	0 1 6		
H. B. Loader	0 1 0		

"ON A COLD AND FROSTY MORNING."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Re Mr Frank Leo's letter on the above subject, I was not aware of the said title being already used. I find, however, my song is on entirely different lines, but as he has a prior claim to the title, I have decided to change mine to "Mishaps on a cold and frosty morning."

Yours faithfully, ERNIE MAYNE.

Opera House, York, June 20.

AT the Empire Music Hall, Wrexham, this week a most capable company has appeared. Mr Tom Herman's naval and military spectacle, *For King and Country*, remains for another week, and is well received; and Owen and Moore, in their musical novelty act; Harry Clyo and Rose Rochelle, in their unique comedy act; and the Brothers Power, American cross-talk comedians and dancers, do well.

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—Owing to an error in the programme of *Liberty Hall* at the King's, Hammersmith, last week, the part of Robert Binks was put down as played by Mr James Blake instead of myself. Yours faithfully, BERYL GRAHAM. 20, Joubert's-mansions, S.W., June 21.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 15.)

SHEERNESS.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr T. G. Transfield; Secretary and Manager, Mr Chas. Melvin.—Leading attractions here are the Garden Troupe of international dancers, who do a decidedly pleasing turn. The Pastor Brothers, musical comiques, are very amusing. Compliments are due to Will and Tim, tumbling tramps; Marti and Julietta, gymnasts, are well received; and Ada Marjutti, a juvenile contortionist, is clever. In the sketch *The Despatch Bearer* Mr John Yelding, equestrian, distinguishes himself in the title-part with remarkable success. Little Bishop and Rabbit continue to amuse with their comical entrées; Witty Watty Walton, comedian, and the Bio-Tableaux furnish the remainder of the programme.

VICTORIA HALL.—Jasper Redfern's animated picture combination is here for this week, and is attracting favourable notice. An excellent variety company, including Jackson and Jackson, who introduce a sensational cycle act on the tea cup track; Charton Howarth, tenor; and Fred Hudson, a capital mimic, is much appreciated.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr H. Armitage's company opened here on Monday in Mr Wilson Barrett's well-known version of *East Lynne*. As the unfortunate Lady Isabel Miss Haidee Wright by her strong emotional acting fairly compelled the sympathies of the audience. Mr Edmund H. Kennedy was an excellent Archibald Carlyle, and Mr Cecil Elgar made the character of Capt. Levison as convincing as possible.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Ramsay.—*Shadows of a Great City* has long been a favourite with lovers of sensation and mingled humour and pathos, and a good house welcomed Mr Harry Foxwell's company on Monday in this well-written drama of New York life. Miss Sheila Walsh won the cordial applause of the audience, and good work was done by Mr Harry Foxwell, Mr Howell Travis, Mr John Hooker, Miss Mollie Monaghan, and other competent artists.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. W. Young.—The *pièce de résistance* this week is a dramatic episode entitled "87," in which that admirable character actor Mr Bransby Williams appears to decided advantage as a veteran hero. The other artists are Miss Alexandra Dagmar, the handsome and talented comedienne; Florence Deighton, soprano vocalist; Minnie Duncan and Arthur Godfrey, sketch artists; the Jagos, American speciality performers; Miss Viviana, danseuse; the Wedburns, in a novel musical act; Clown Ferreros, novelty entertainer; George Ripon, the old local favourite, in new songs; Gladys Mavius, the Canadian coon; and May Milburn, comedienne and dancer.

GRAND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr W. C. Burns.—Belrose and De Velin, the Two O'Malleys, the Clyde-built comics; Amy Anderson and her company, in a smart sketch; Mark Leslie, the Gracios Trio, M. Cordite, the Three Artells, agile and daring artists; and Jack Watson are appearing nightly to well-pleased houses.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr Henry Hare's company is here this week with the musical farcical comedy entitled *The Girl From Chicago*. The play is successfully given, and is well mounted. Mr Buckstone Clair in the rôle of Judge Ananias Hussel performs in a creditable manner, and is ably supported by Mr W. C. Bland as Billy M'Guffin. Mr Henry Hare ably impersonates General Boomer; Percy Montgomery finds a capable exponent in Mr Douglas Vigors; Mr Clarence Ibbotson gives prominence to Brother Obadiah Cacoles, and whose imitations of dancing and violin playing are very clever; Miss Carrie Nono and Miss Nelly Vicott as Mrs Sweetlove and Lucretia Flatfoot respectively make amusing characters; and Miss Madelin Du Val is capital as Flora Boomer. The Daffodils are seen to great advantage in their dancing.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Sole Owners, the Southend Theatre Company; Manager, Mr W. Marlow.—Mr Edward Marris's company is drawing large houses this week with *The Dandy Doctor*. The principals are Miss Florence Smithers, who acts admirably as Jane; Miss Lizzie Primmer as Ivy Pendred, and Mr Marris as Melchisadeck Brown.

KURSAAL.—Manager, Colonel Blair Staples.—A very good variety entertainment is provided here this week. The programme includes Miss Lottie Stone's Four English Roses; Alvantee, the wire king; Miss Rose Cass, comedienne; Mr Nat Lewis, character comedian; Dardin and Iris; Alf Passmore, popular comedian; Leo Montague, quaint comedian; Steve Cooke, eccentric comedian; A. B. Houghton, pianist; and Ruffel's Imperial Bioscope.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldon Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder.—After a lapse of many years we are having a visit of Mr John Cassidy's *Muldoon's Picnic* company. Mr Edwin Garth's Michael Mulcahy is very racily acted, and the rôle fits him well; Mr W. G. Wesley as Dennis Muldoon is excellent; Mr Oliver Birrel's Johnny O'Brien does him credit; and Mr Elton Morgan's Juno Smith is good. Mr Leo Whamboult's Mrs Muldoon suits well; Miss Madge Cassidy is a sprightly Kitty Muldoon; and Miss Florrie Mandeville's Ada M'Laughlin a spirited performance.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. Batty; Manager, Mr W. Batty.—The bill for the week includes Stewart and Morgan, in their vocal speciality, "Leaving Ireland"; the Three Sisters Silcott, vocalists and dancers; Marco, a clever boy illusionist; Gus Harris, popular Hebrew vocalist; Clark and Argyle, agile dancers; Jack Charman, an excellent boy vocalist; Lanton and Lane, comedians; Tennyson and Wallis, vocalists and clever patterers; and Payne's pictures.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—The boards are occupied by Milton Rays' able company, in *The Dark Egyptian*. Mr Joseph Harling creditably sustains the rôle of Anthony Shelmerdale, and a suitable Edward Dyson is Mr Harry Marlow. Mr Harry Cullenford forcibly depicts Clifford Dyson; the title-rôle is played by Mr E. Bulwer Pitt in praiseworthy style; Mr Fred Buckland makes the most of his opportunities as James Woodward; Mr Henry Elliston, who works extremely hard, is funny as Fred Winkles; Miss Mary Mulvey pleasingly delineates Mary Tippet; Miss Kate Froude is artistic and pathetic as Joan Elroy; and the rôle of Marie Dyson is powerfully handled by Miss Gussie Everitt.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—Nellie Vanderbilt, a charming comedienne, is here. Miss Victoria Monks's admirable singing and dancing is greatly admired; the Knick-Knacks appeared in a good comedy and dancing act; E. J. Sheldon is a versatile comedian; and Alice Maple is a bright comedienne and dancer. *The Dandy Thieves*, a musical sketch, has been warmly applauded. Mr Dan Rolyat represents Sergeant Lightning with marked ability, evoking intense merriment. Mr Frank Morton's Lord Eatem

SUNDERLAND.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Messrs Fred Denton and Sidney Rennef's company occupies the boards here in *A Life's Story*. Mr Andrew Money as Count Bergen, Mr Robert Purdie as Dr. Laffer, Mr Chas. A. Leicester as Jack Temple, Mr Sidney Rennef as Max and Frank Clifford, and Mr H. C. Lanceley as Tom Berry are all equally good in their respective parts. Miss Cora Linda makes a winsome Beatrice, and Miss Lillian Warren's Rosa is all that can be desired. Miss Amy Ellam as Zeila is very successful.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Brothers; Acting-Manager, Mr George V. Wybrow; Secretary, Mr Alfred Browne.—Bella and Bijou, society entertainers, retain their place at the head of the bill this week. The Reed-Oetzmann Troupe submit a pantomime entitled *Fun in the Tyrol* in a praiseworthy manner. The Three Sisters Lee are decidedly clever acrobats. Alf Davis is a smart comedian. Mabel Hind gives an original scena entitled *A Little Japanese*. Watts and Hardy are clever comedy duettists. Brian and Lawrence, Alf West, and Bros. Lavelle also contribute.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee and Manager, Mr Fredk. Mouillot; Resident Manager, Mr Frank Boyce.—Fred Jarman's amusing play, *Trooper Hunt's Widow*, has been the attraction here during the week, performed by Mr Frank Nelson's company. Mr Wilfred E. Shine is most successful as Joseph Hunt, his impersonation of the "widow" being most droll. Mr Alec Flood (Richard Hunt), Mr Howard Cridland (Harry Frazer), Mr Joseph Hudson (Gordon Ryder), and Mr Cecil Fowler (Nathaniel Tapp) add considerably to the amusement. Miss Amy Edmonds (Frances Gresham), Miss Susie Oak (Bessie Wood), and Miss Zoe Gilfillan (Miss Jane Watson) also play well. The amusing trifle *He and She* precedes each evening.

NEW STAR.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—Augusta Tulloch's sensational comedy-drama, *The Convent Bell*, has been the attraction at this house during the week, played by Mr Howell Webb and company.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Mitchell.—The programme put forward here for the current week includes Minnie Palmer, assisted by Mr Sidney Harcourt, in the sketch *A Husband's Diary;* Ada Cerito, a pleasing comedienne; E. W. Selman, a humorous entertainer; the Sisters Pine (Vesta and Minnie), duettists, vocalists, and dancers; Seeley and West, a pair of eccentric musicians; Jerry Hart and Beatrice Leo, the popular Yankee entertainers; the Brown and Kelly combination in a laughable act, *My Wife's Baby;* the Brothers Phillipi, clever acrobatic equilibrists; the Leonards (Bob and Jennie), very good speciality artistes; and Belle Davis and her precocious pick-chicks.

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr P. Collins; Manager, Mr Frank Egerton.—Full houses twice nightly are usual here, and the new Hippodrome's success is apparently assured. This week Mr John Lawson presents *Humanity*. The interest is heightened by the fact that Mr Frank Egerton, the new manager, was the first to present *Humanity* at the South London Music Hall. The sketch is received most enthusiastically. The Sisters Llewellyn, duettists, are singers of ability, the blending of the two voices being excellent; Dave Halle is a funny comedian with good songs; Othello, the coloured Hercules, performs some marvellous feats of strength; Mdlle. Roma and her picaninnies contribute an interesting dancing turn; Pat Carey is amusing in his Irish ditties; and Miss Chris Florence is a pleasing dancer.

WALTHAMSTOW.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Bull.—Mr Augustus Geo. Lytton's company is here this week in Mr John P. Lockney's sensational melodrama *A Hidden Crime*, of which a praiseworthy interpretation is given by Messrs Alfred E. Culver, Montague Turner, R. H. Stephenson, Harry Ray, Walter F. Dunlop, Chauncey Morris, and Chas. A. White; Miss Alice Capel, Miss Bessie Frank, Miss Marguerite Romney, and Miss Ada Murray (Mrs J. K. Murray).

PALACE.—Managing Director, Mr G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr George F. Slatter.—One of the best turns in the very good all-round company appearing here this week is that of Sidney James's Strolling Players. The four artists give an extremely agreeable performance, combining song, dance, and ventriloquism. Everything they do is of the first class, and the short ventriloquial scene is exceptionally clever. Continuous roars of laughter follow the side-splitting comicalities of Fred Karno's company in *Twice Nightly; or, the Mumming Birds*, a good-humoured travesty of a music hall entertainment. Every member of the company works loyally to keep the ball of fun rolling merrily with the happiest results. Mr Fred Poplar is loudly applauded for his two songs, and is as good an actor as he is a singer. Miss Beattie Herbert is a fascinating little comedienne, possessing a pretty appearance, a sweet, well-trained voice, and a nimble toe. Arthur Rigby and company appear successfully in their bustling scena, *Crystal Palace —Bank Holiday*. The Olive Trio create a very favourable impression as characteristic vocal comediennes. So admirable is Mr Chas. Norton as a mimic of other stars of the "halls" that, while admiring his talents, we almost regret that he does not "oblige" with an original contribution. Nevertheless, his imitations of Gus Elen, Chirgwin, George Robey, and others are clever and enjoyable. A couple of well-sung songs are contributed by Miss Kitty Wager. The orchestra, under Mr H. Petersen, gives a capital rendering of the overture to Balfe's *Bohemian Girl*.

WALSALL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Company, Limited; General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Mr Roy Jackson's company is here in *The Hand of Iron*. Mr Roy Jackson submits a strong representation of Manuel Levigne. Mr W. Maxwell enacts Edmund Singleton with force and vigour, and Mr C. Benson makes an efficient George Sutherland. Mr J. H. Howe is humorous as Jas. Wellington Bloggs, Miss Kittie Douglas is a charming Marie Durogue, and Miss E. Desmond is well placed as May Sutherland.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs A. Milton, W. Johnson, and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—Mr Frank Maple's company, in the farcical musical comedy, *A Vision of Venus*, is the attraction here this week. The chief characters are sustained by Messrs Edward Lockstone, Hermon, Albert Frederick, Frank Maples Will James, and the Misses Elsie Ward, Agnes Anderson, Vida Hill, Ethel Wood, Marie Benn and Ivy Ramsey.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs A. Milton, W. Johnson, and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr F. Willmot.—A capital programme meets with approval here. Frank Cass scores a big success with a capital round of songs; and Kahn and Kahn are a clever pair of conjurors. A charming comedienne is Edie Endon, and Book Pylades cleverly impersonates a host of celebrities. Mr R. Dunning supplies an original ventriloquial turn; and Codge, the whistling street arab, astonishes all with his abilities. Bessie is well described as the "coloured Patti;" and Frank Cumminger displays exceptional abilities as a sand dancer.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND.—General Manager (for Mrs Weldon Watts), Mr Fredk. Conneaux.—Mr Chas. Harrington and his company are drawing large audiences to this theatre during the week with their capital musical adaptation of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. There are a number of new features introduced, which combine to make the work more attractive than ever to both young and old. The speciality act is very special, and the music throughout is charming and effective. A more delightful actress than Miss Annie Watson as Topsy could not be desired; whilst Mr J. Carr is an ideal Uncle Tom. Phineas Fletcher finds a very able exponent in Mr C. Harrington, as does also Cassy, the Creole slave, in Mrs Harrington, Miss Ethel Mildmay portraying the character of Eliza Harris exceedingly well. The rest of the characters are all in good hands, and altogether the combination, which includes real negroes and freed slaves, is a very strong one.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr W. Payne.—Miss Lucy Wilson and Mr Gordon Bailey's exceptionally competent company commenced a lengthy provincial tour on Monday with *The Second Mrs Tanqueray* and *The Profligate*. Miss Wilson, looking remarkably handsome in her superb dresses, gave an intensely dramatic interpretation of Paula Tanqueray; Aubrey Tanqueray found an exponent of rare histrionic ability in Mr Leonard Pagden; and it is impossible to speak too highly of Mr Gordon Bailey's Cayley Drummle. Praise should be given to Mr Sydney Stirling for his impersonation of Captain Hugh Ardale; Miss Kathleen Rind gave a charming portrayal of Eilean; Miss Davies Webster did excellent work as Mrs Cortelyon; Mr Frank G. Bailey and Miss Lola Duncan were diverting as Sir George and Lady Orreyed: and Mr Noel M'Guckin as Morse deserved praise.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—This week Bocchi's Milan orchestra performs here twice daily, their excellent playing being much enjoyed. Mr Leslie Harris's humorous sketches at the piano are truly clever and mirth-provoking; Mr George Thorne and and Mr Verna Reed appear in an extremely funny sketch entitled *Stage-Struck Lovers*, their combined efforts being much applauded. New pictures are being shown by the Biograph.

WIGAN.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick.—There is a capital list of artistes at the Hippodrome this week. The Lukushima Troupe of Japanese give a marvellously clever performance as jugglers, equilibrists, &c.; Massona is a skilful juggler of billiard cues, &c; Keen and Wallad are amusing comedy acrobats; Fields and Acres give an original entertainment; Archie Glen is a successful boy comedian; and Les Belles Americaines are admirable vocalists and dancers. Fred Curran, Carr and Rose, and Ryder Slone are all popular comedians.

WINDSOR.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Governing Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Rickitt.—Lovers of opera in Windsor have had a rare opportunity afforded them of gratifying their taste this week, the Theatre Royal having been occupied by Mr F. S. Gilbert's English opera company. Mr Gilbert, himself a powerful actor and fine tenor, has surrounded himself with an excellent company, composed of accomplished operatic artistes. His répertoire for the week consists of *Maritana*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *Il Trovatore*, *Faust*, and *The Daughter of the Regiment*. One evening was devoted to each of these celebrated works, *The Bohemian Girl* being presented a second time. Mr Gilbert assumed the leading male rôle in each opera, and by his brilliant and effective dramatic and vocal rendition of the respective impersonations created a deep impression. His charming singing, dignified bearing, and realistic acting evoked enthusiastic applause. Other leading characters were successfully assumed by, among others, Miss Constance St. Bride (soprano), Miss Kitty Brownless (soprano), Miss Vere Vizard (contralto), Miss Nellie Moore (mezzo-soprano), Mr J. H. Wood (baritone), Mr F. H. Erle (baritone), and Mr Evan Davies (bass). Mr W. F. Bradshaw conducted with ability, Madame Montaigne officiated at the piano in brilliant style, and the orchestra performed their parts with admirable efficiency.

WORCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; General Manager, Mr Douglas C. Phelps; Assistant-Manager, Mr Albert J. Lewis.—The stock company is producing *East Lynne* during the present week. Miss Grace Heywood gives a refined impersonation of Lady Mabel. Other familiar fem'nine characters are taken efficiently by Miss Lallah Davies (Barbara Hare), Miss Stanley Burt (Cornelia), Miss Dora Taylor (Joyce), Miss Nellie Maude (Wilson), and Miss Kitty Russell (Susanne). Mr James Willard gives a clever rendering of Sir Francis Levison, Mr E. Valentine makes a dignified Lord Mount Severn, Mr Herbert Sydney is capital as Justice Hare, Mr Gwyn Richardson is good as Richard Hare, and Mr Walter Dale is most comical as P.C. Mutton. Mr Douglas Gerrard gave a polished and restrained interpretation of the part of Archibald Carlyle, and was much applauded.

YORK.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr T. H. Barrow.—Miss R. Scott-Watson's repertoire company is here this week. On Monday night the new and powerful drama *The Scarlet Woman* was produced. The play is finely staged and throughout the performance was well received. Mr E. J. Fane as Richard Marchant has full scope for his abilities. As Will Raymond Mr Wolston Foster acts a repulsive part with marked success. The Joe Cartwright of Mr J. E. Cowell is an excellent character study. Mr Reginald Fox as Philip Gordon and Mr Harry Cooke as Samuel Hopkins are uniformly excellent. Miss R. Scott-Watson gave a talented rendering of the title-rôle. Miss Muriel Alleyne is an easy and natural Margery Honor. Miss Ruby Hamilton is a vivacious Charlotte Simpkins, and along with Miss M. Tremere as Fanchette is responsible for much merriment. Miss Scott-Watson is a graceful Mrs Desmond. On Wednesday night, by special desire, *Trilby* was presented, and on Friday night the ever-popular play *East Lynne* was staged.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr Sidney Brooke—Leonard Barry tops the bill this week and is particularly well received, his topical songs and mannerisms are much appreciated. Another great attraction is the Five Whiteleys in their clever performance. Miss Bessie Featherstone gives a capital turn, her songs being rendered in a pleasing manner. The return visit of the great Cameron, illusionist, is much appreciated; Miss Elsie Claire is a pleasing vocalist; Ernie Mayne, a popular comedian; and the Florodora Girls and Haig and Novel complete a capital programme.

AT the Queen's Theatre, Swindon, on Monday *Lady Godiva* was capitally acted by Messrs J. F. Preston and P. E. Doherty's company, under the direction of Mr F. B. Woulfe, who gave an excellent portrayal of Tom o' Coventry. Miss Hilda Shirley, in the name-part, succeeded in supplying an earnest and effective delineation; Miss G. Walton made the most of Lady Aldyth; and Miss Nina Westerleigh distinguished herself as Elfrida. The part of Algar was cleverly and strongly sustained by Mr James E. Page, and Mr Alfred D. Adam's study of Leofric was full of merit. Mr Sidney Benson as Robert Shacklebolt and Mr Hardy Marco as Unwolf were seen to distinct advantage.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

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George Edwardes's London Gaiety Company.

Mr and Mrs Robert Brough and London Company.

London Representative, J. A. E. MALONE,
Daly's Theatre, London, W.

ALTRINCHAM.—PUBLIC HALL.—
Open for Engagements for Stage Plays, Concerts, Balls, Cinématograph Exhibitions, &c.
Population of District, 30,000. For terms, Vacant Dates, and other particulars, please apply to the SECRETARY.

BATLEY, THEATRE ROYAL.—
Proprietors, Mr and Mrs J. EDWARD WHITTY.
Batley is the biggest borough and most thickly populated town in the whole of the heavy woollen district.—Vide Leeds Mercury, Aug 1, 1901.
Within a radius of Two Miles from the Theatre Royal, Batley, there is a Compact Population of 90,000.
Stage Dimensions.

Proscenium Opening	26ft.
Width from Wall to Wall	50ft.
Width between Fly Rails	31ft.
Depth	31ft.
Height from Stage to Grid	50ft.
Height from Stage to Fly Floor	20ft.

Holding Capacity.
Number of Persons who paid for admission on one night:—

Circle and Boxes	118	Pit	344
Side Circle and Stalls	525	Gallery	712
Total, 2,199			

Vacant Dates, Aug. 1 and 8.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—
Managing-Director, Mr TOM B. DAVIS.
Will Reopen at Christmas, 1904-5, with Pantomime.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1905.
For Dates, address Mr TOM B. DAVIS,
Lyric Theatre, London.

BLACKBURN, THEATRE ROYAL.—
The Premier and Popular Theatre of the Town.
High-class Attractions do Immense business here.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1905
Address, HARRY YORKE, Rossendale-avenue, Morecambe

BLACKPOOL—
HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS.
The PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES, and has better average Business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best Equipped Theatre. Large and Well Electric-Lighted Stage and First-class Orchestra.
All Visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ball-room, and Pavilion Entertainments, thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies booked.
For Dates address, JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. —
Booked and Re-booked with the Best Combinations Touring. None but First-class Companies Please address, J. F. ELLISTON.

BOSTON. — CORN EXCHANGE. —
Open for Engagements, Concerts, Exhibitions, Lectures, &c. Share or Rental. Splendid District. For terms, &c., Vacant Dates, apply to the Lessee A. W. HOLLOWAY, Boston, Lincs.

BRADFORD MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Intending Applicants for the Hire of Lecture Hall, Seating 1,300, for Saturday Evenings, October to April, including Boxing Day and Easter, should communicate as soon as possible with E. W. ROBERTS, Secretary.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.)
Managing Director, Mr W. B. REDFERN, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Only Vacant Date this Year, Oct. 20.
Now Booking for 1905 Silence polite negative.
Address, Mr W. B. REDFERN, as above.

CATERHAM, SURREY.—
Seventeen Miles from Town. Population, 9,000.
THE PUBLIC HALL. Three Minutes from Station.
Seating accommodation provided for 400 (400 extra Seats by arrangement). Permanent Stage. Dressing-rooms. Terms, per night inclusive of Heating and Lighting, 2½ Guineas Special terms for the week.
All communications to the Manager, J. D. ROLLS, Kinnoull, Warlingham, Surrey.

CHELTENHAM. — VICTORIA ROOMS
(late Corn Exchange), HIGH-STREET.—Lessee and Manager, EDWARD B. SHENTON (late Lessee of the Old Theatre Royal and Assembly Rooms). Available for Entertainments, Concerts, Lectures &c. Share or Rental Seat 1,000 Persons. Full Dramatic Licence. Christmas Vacant.

COLCHESTER, THEATRE ROYAL.—
Sole Proprietor, Mr CHARLES MACDONA.
Vacant Dates, Aug. 8, 15, 29 Sept 5, 19 Oct 24, Nov. 7, 14, 28, Dec 5, 12, Christmas. Apply to CHARLES MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—
Vacant Aug. 1, Bank Holiday, through Transfer.
Aug. 15, 22, Sept. 19.
Applications to Mr JOHN HORGAN, Manager.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

COATBRIDGE, N.B., THEATRE ROYAL.
Proprietress, Mrs M. WATSON;
Manager, Mr C. B. FOUNTAINE.

The above Theatre is now undergoing very extensive alterations, and when finished will be one of the finest Theatres in the Scotch Provinces.
The Decorating and Upholstery are being carried out by Messrs A. R. Dean and Sons, Birmingham.
The Theatre will comprise Gallery, 6d.; Pit, 9d.; Pit Stalls, 1s.; Balcony, 1s. 6d.; Dress Circle, 2s.; Boxes, 15s and £1 1s.
The Pit Stalls and Balcony will be Upholstered in Crimson Plush, the Dress Circle in Old Gold Plush.
Lighted throughout with Electric Light.
Everything Up to Date.
Opening Date now settled.
First-class Attractions Required for 1905.

Write full particulars to
C. B. FOUNTAINE, Manager.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE,
ISLE OF MAN.
The Largest and Most Popular Theatre of any Seaside Resort. Enormous success of the extensive alterations.
All letters, ALFRED HEMMING

DOUGLAS, I.O.M.—HIPPODROME.—
Messrs POWELL and CONNOR return thanks for the numerous replies to last week's Advert., and will be pleased to hear from Artistes again, as Opening Date has been Postponed to July 11. All communications to Hippodrome, Douglas. N.B.—Advertising Staff complete.

DUBLIN.—QUEEN'S ROYAL THEATRE.
Sole Proprietor and Patentee, Mr ELLIS JONES.
Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. WHITEHEAD.
Through obliging Manager, Vacant July 25th.
Address, Mr J. W. WHITEHEAD.

Silence in all cases a respectful negative.

ECCLES. — LYCEUM THEATRE. —
Lessee and Manager, Mr J. HAGUE.
Managers of No. 1 Attractions invited to forward list of Vacancies.
Now Booking Autumn, 1904, and Spring, 1905.

GLASGOW.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. BUCHANAN. Glasgow's Premier Theatre.
The Royal Princess's, Glasgow; Metropole, Glasgow; Boro', North Shields; Royal, Blyth; and Scotland's Provincial Theatres booked in conjunction.

GREENOCK, THEATRE ROYAL.—
Lessees, THE EXECUTORS of the late ALEXANDER WRIGHT; Managers, A. B. WRIGHT and J. J. WRIGHT.—Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1905. First-class Companies only. Silence a polite negative.

GREENOCK. — NEW THEATRE. —
Managing Director, Mr R. C. BUCHANAN.
To be erected at a cost of £18,000. Holding over 2,000.
Fireproof, Electric Installation.
Any other Theatre in Greenock is barred.
R. C. BUCHANAN Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.
Proprietors, PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE Co., OF GRIMSBY, LIMITED.
Managing-Director, JOSEPH H. CURRY.
Few Autumn Dates at Liberty,
Now Booking 1905.
Telegraphic address, "Curry, Grimsby."

GUERNSEY.—ST. JULIANS.
Aug. 22, Vacant.
Apply, PERKINS, Opera House, Jersey.

HANLEY, THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—
Please note.—The Staffordshire Potteries for all Dramatic Purposes must be considered as one Large Town. The following Attractions are Booked for the Autumn Season of 1904:—Miss Ellen Terry and full Company, Mr E. S. Willard and full London Company, Moody-Manners No. 1 Company, Sir Henry Irving and his Répertoire Company; also the following No. 1 Companies:—"Belle of New York," "Sapho," "Earl and the Girl," "School Girl," "Girl from Kay's," "Duchess of Dantzig," Beerbohm Tree's "Darling of the Gods," "Florodora," and others.
Hanley has undoubtedly the Largest Theatre and Stage in Staffordshire. Lighted by Electricity; accommodation for 3,700 People Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to ends of the District, Longton, Stoke, Burslem, and Tunstall.
Vacant for First-class Companies only,
Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 26 Oct. 31, Nov. 7 and 1905.
CHAS. E. ELPHINSTONE, Managing-Director.

HULL, THEATRE ROYAL.—
Bookings this year include:—Moody-Manners Opera (Two Weeks) Beerbohm Tree's Shakespearian Répertoire Company, "Quality Street," Henry Neville, in "The Two Orphans;" "Sign of the Cross," Martin Harvey (Two Visits), "The Only Way" and "The Breed of the Treshams;" "Florodora," "New Barmaid," "Little Miss Nobody," "In Dahomey," Mrs Lewis Waller, W. S. Gilbert's "The Fairy's Dilemma," "The Darling of the Gods," Pantomime, "Sleeping Beauty," at Christmas. Special Production.

Aug. 15 Vacant,
and as the Theatre Royal is now the only Theatre in Hull Playing Full Prices,
a Musical Play or Circle Attraction is Required.

Note.—The New Alexandra Theatre (Morton's, Limited) Caters for the Drama-loving Public, and is a uniform Success.

HULL.—THE CIRCUS.—
General Manager, EDWARD EMERSON.
One of the Finest and Largest Halls in the Provinces Fitted with Large Stage, and suitable for Circus, Minstrels, Panoramas, Concert and Choir Parties, &c. Rental or Share. Only a Few Vacant Dates. GENERAL MANAGER.

HYDE, NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—
Managing-Director Mr J. W. MALONEY.
District Population, 100,000.
Magnificent Stage, equal to any Production.
Vacant Aug. 15 (Wakes Week), and on, with exceptions.
Address, MALONEY.

ILKESTON, THEATRE ROYAL.—
Licensee and Manager, Mr L. F. A. ROGERS.—First-class Attractions Required for Aug. 8, 15, and 22, Sept. 19 and 26. Pantomimes, Jan. 2, 9, and 16 1905.
Silence a courteous negative.

IPSWICH.
LECTURE HALL
and
ANTE-ROOMS,
very central, ground floor,
Newly Rebuilt and Up to Date,
Numerous Exits;
Licensed for Stage Plays.
Seats 600.
3½s. 6d. per night; Eight Guineas a-week.
Apply to
H. WALKER, Secretary, Institute, Ipswich.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.
BARROW.—ROYALTY T. AND OPERA HOUSE.
CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE
Lessee and Manager, Mr HUGH ROBERTSON.
Vacant Dates:—Jarrow, July 25, Oct. 17, Nov. 28, also Christmas and New Year Weeks. Barrow Sept. 26, Oct. 17, and Nov. 7, for First-class Musical Attractions. The Bookings for this Theatre include the Principal Attractions Touring. Consett, Aug. 1 (?), Oct. 3, 31, and Nov. 14 and 21, on

JERSEY. — OPERA HOUSE
Vacant Sept. 12, Two Nights; Guernsey, Three.
Apply, PERKINS, Opera House, Jersey.

KIDDERMINSTER.—OPERA HOUSE.
Magnificent New Building, elegantly Furnished, Electricity and Gas; Holding Capacity £100; Receipts from Christmas to Whitsuntide exceeded £3,500. Most elaborate production easily staged. Grid 44ft. Bookings equal to any Theatre in the Midlands. Vacant August Bank Holiday, Oct. 3, Dec. 5, and 19. Address all communications, J. P. MOORE, Theatre, West Bromwich.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW THEATRE.—
Notice.—Mr J. BANNISTER HOWARD, having taken a long Lease of the Theatre is now having it rebuilt. When finished (in August) the Theatre will be capable of holding nearly £80, and can frequently be booked in conjunction with the New Theatre, Cambridge (forty-one miles away). Companies can visit King's Lynn the First Three Nights of the week and Cambridge the Last Three. Bookings already include:—Moody-Manners Opera Company, "Chinese Honeymoon," "Belle of New York," "San Toy," "La Poupée," Chas. Frohman's "Sherlock Holmes" Company, "Three Little Maids," "Les Cloches de Corneville," Edward Terry, Arthur Roberts, "Are You a Mason?" "Country Girl," "Silver King," "Eternal City," "Florodora," "Darling of the Gods," &c.
Vacant Dates:—Sept. 29, Three Nights; Oct. 6, Three Nights; Nov. 7, Three Nights; Nov. 21, Six Nights; Dec. 16, Three Nights; and plenty of Spring Dates.
J. BANNISTER HOWARD, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, London.
N.B.—Required, Good Pantomime for Christmas.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.
Sole Proprietor, Lieut.-Col. J. A. WINSTANLEY.
Re Dates for Spring, 1905, address,
GEO. M. SLATER,
Business Manager for Lieut-Col. Winstanley,
Royal Opera House, Leicester.

NOTTINGHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.
Manager, CHARLES P. COOKE.
Vacant Sept. 26,
First-class Attraction only.
Silence a courteous negative.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.—
Holding Capacity, £203. Telephone, 362.
Vacant for a really Brilliant No. 1 Pantomime, Jan. 30, Feb. 6, and 13 (not "Aladdin").
Address all communications to ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr THOMAS LUCAS, J.P.,
Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative

PLYMOUTH, THEATRE ROYAL.—
This Theatre will again pass into Mr Williams's hands after June 25, 1904,
and will be Reopened under his Management on Monday, June 27.

Applications for Dates to be addressed for the present to
Mr C. F. WILLIAMS,
The Grand Theatre, Plymouth.
Vacant July 4, 18, 25, Aug. 22, Dec. 5 and 12.

PLYMOUTH.—GRAND THEATRE.—
Centrally situated in the midst of over 200,000 Inhabitants. The Most Popular Theatre in Plymouth. Playing to Record Business, and now in the Flood Tide of Success. First-class attractions only. For Dates apply, Mr C. F. WILLIAMS,
Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

PORTSMOUTH, NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. BOUGHTON.
Open throughout the Year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

PORTSMOUTH.—EMPIRE PALACE.—
June 27, J. Lawson and Co., G. Prince, Woodhouse and Wells, D. W. Watson, Terry and Bentley, Sisters Warner, G. Werson, M. Ford, Pat Rafferty.
Rehearsal at 2·0 o'clock.
All communications to the SECRETARY.

RAMSGATE.—
SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.
Sole Proprietor, Lord GEORGE SANGER.
Manager, HENRY BOWMAN.
The Old established and Popular Theatre.
Visited by all the Leading Attractions.
Open all the Year Round.

RYDE, THEATRE ROYAL.—
Sole Lessee and Manager, J. BANNISTER HOWARD.
Mr J. Bannister Howard having taken a Long Lease of the above Theatre, is now having it entirely renovated, and will Open Monday, July 25.
Bookings already include "Three Little Maids," "Belle of New York" "Message From Mars," "Country Girl," "Florodora," "Saturday to Monday," "Eternal City," "Cousin Kate," "Chinese Honeymoon," "La Poupée," "Darling of the Gods." Vacant Dates:—Aug. 8, Three Nights; Aug. 15, Two Nights; Sept. 8, Three Nights; Sept 15, Three Nights; Sept. 26 Three Nights; Oct. 3, Six Nights. Also Vacant Christmas, Easter, and Whitsun.
J. BANNISTER HOWARD, 3, Bedford-street, Strand

SACRISTON (near DURHAM).—NEW VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. C. LOWES.
Stage Dimensions—Width, 34ft., Depth 25ft. Proscenium Opening, 21ft. by 17ft. high. Seating Accommodation, Hall and Balcony, 1,000
Telegraphic Address, Lowes, Sacriston."

SOUTHEND.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—
The Prettiest and most Popular Place of Amusement on the South-east Coast.
Bookings include all the Best Attractions.
Required, First-class Companies for July 25, Aug. 22 Oct. 3 10, 17;
also Easter and Whit Week, 1905.
Managers of First-class Companies only please address, W. MARLOW, jun., as above.
Silence a polite negative.

STOCKPORT,
THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE
Sole Owner and Manager, Mr CHARLES REVILL.
Will hold at ordinary Prices £120
Bookings include "Amorelle," "The Earl and the Girl," "The Never-Never Land," "The Girl from Kay's," "Florodora," Miss Fortescue, "Duchess of Dantzic," "The Orchid," "Message from Mars," "My Lady Molly," "A Chinese Honeymoon," "Three Little Maids," Van Biene, J. W. Turner, "A Country Girl," D'Oyly Carte, &c.
Vacant Oct. 17, Nov. 14, onward, with exceptions.
THE THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, Six Miles Distant, Booked in Conjunction Will hold at ordinary prices £140.
All communications, CHARLES REVILL, Stockport.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE OPERA HOUSE and THEATRE ROYAL.
Managing-Director, CHAS. E. MACHIN.
General Manager, PERCIVAL CRAIG.
Only Vacant Dates.
AVENUE.
Aug. 15, Sept. 5, Nov. 28.
ROYAL.
Dec. 12, 19.
Managers please note Seaham Harbour is barred.
Apply, C. E. MACHIN, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

WALSALL. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, THE WALSALL THEATRES Co., Ltd; Secretary and Manager, W. H. WESTWOOD.—Holds £180 Circle, 3s.; Stalls, 2s.; Family Circle, 2s.; Pit Stalls, 1s. 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Amphitheatre, 9d.; Gallery, 6d. First Vacant Dates, Aug. 8th and 15th, and on (with exceptions).

WEST BROMWICH, THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr JAMES P. MOORE.
A Popular and Prosperous Theatre.
Electric Light throughout Leading Companies only.
Vacant Aug. 1 and Nov. 7, 8, 9.

WOKING.—PUBLIC HALL.—
JOHN SMYTH, Secretary.
The Hall is fitted with Electric Light,
Scenery by Hinton, Tip-up Seats by Deans, of Birmingham
The Stage has recently been Enlarged.
Good Attractions only Required.
J. LEWIS, Manager.

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"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, Companies for
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 24, 31, Nov. 14, Christmas Week, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Aug. 22, Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 14, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 24, Nov. 7, 21, on.
(Musical Companies preferred.)
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 31,
Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12.
CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD
Vacant, Dec 19, Jan. 2, 9, 23, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
July 4, Sept. 5, Oct. 31,
Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 16, 23.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Vacant Sept. 19, 26,
Oct. 10, 31 (Race Week), Nov. 21, Dec. 12, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Company
for July 4 and Aug. 22.
County Theatre, Reading.
Apply, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime
or Musical Comedy
for Christmas.
Apply, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies for July 4 at Reading and Huddersfield; and July 11, at Northampton. Wire, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

MELVILLE'S THEATRES and COMPANIES.
WANTED, Important Attractions, for
STANDARD THEATRE,
July 4.
TERRISS THEATRE,
July 18.
METROPOLE THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM,
Aug. 22, 29, and Sept. 19, 26.
Address, WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 12.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Vacant Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 5,
and Christmas.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Vacant Aug. 18, Aug. 25 (Cricket Week), Sept. 8, onwards.
VICTORIA THEATRE, SHEERNESS.
Excellent business can be done for First Three Nights of each Week. Canterbury Booked in conjunction.
Vacant Aug 1, 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, onwards.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Musical Comedy, Aug. 8. A Scene Dock has just been added to the above Theatre. Address, HERBERT VERE.

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.
Lessee and Manager, Mr ERNEST STEVENS.
General Manager, J MURRAY HERRIOT.

WANTED, through Alteration in Booking,
Aug. 1.
First-class Attraction only.
Aug. 1.

Brixton Theatre, S.W.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Good Companies, New to Grimsby, Aug. 29 and Sept. 5.
Copy of Day-Bill and terms to
J. H. CURRY, as above.
Three Days' silence a polite negative pro tem.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. PAYNE SEDDON.
WANTED, Companies, Sept. 12 or 19,
Oct. 17 or 24.
No other Vacant Dates until February.
W. PAYNE SEDDON,
Coombe Cottage, Holford, Bridgwater, Somerset.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORTHING.
WANTED, First-class Companies for the following Dates:—July 14, 15, 16, Aug. 15, 16, 17, Oct. 3, 4, 5.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK
Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. PAYNE SEDDON.
WANTED, Companies, Sept 5, Oct. 3 or 10, and 24. Last Three Days of each Week only. Dumfries can be Booked in conjunction First Three Days.
W. PAYNE SEDDON,
Coombe Cottage, Holford, Bridgwater, Somerset.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY, DURHAM.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, New to Stanley, for Oct. 31, Dec. 5, 12, 19, Jan. 2, and on
WILLIAMS, 43, Wellington-road, Rhyl.

STANLEY, DURHAM, ROYAL, LIMITED.
WANTED, a Good Pantomime, Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 9, or Feb. 6, First in for Two Years.
Address, MARK H. LINDON.

WANTED, July 11, 18, and 25 for Prince's Theatre, Preston. Good Musical Shows.
Address, SAWYER and WOODRUFF.

KING'S THEATRE, CARDIFF.
Sole Lessee and Manager, FRANK BATEMAN.
Despite Hot Weather Business steadily Increasing.
Everything done to Ensure Success Thoroughly Cleansed and Decorated. Improvements Continuous.
Staff Entirely New in Front of Curtain and Behind.
Competent Scenic Artist Retained.
Next week, Mr Ernest R. Abbott, in Repertoire.
WANTED, First-class Drama, Nov. 7 (?), Dec. 5, 19, Jan. 2. Required, Elaborate Pantomime, must be Big Show, Jan. 16, 23, 30. Feb 6. Also Best Dramas, Spring. Address, FRANK BATEMAN.

WANTED, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford, Companies. Vacant July 4 and on. Big Attraction for Bank Holiday. Now Booking Autumn. JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

WANTED, Good Companies,
July 25, 26, 27, Aug. 8, 9, 10, 29, 30 31.
MANAGER King's Theatre, Walton-on-Naze.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for July 11, 18, 25, and intermediates on. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, for Empire, Oldham, Jan 30, Feb. 6, 13, a No. 1 Pantomime. Brilliant, or useless.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

WANTED, Big Attractions, September, on, Grand, Chorley, also Grand, Radcliffe.
Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, First-class Productions for Victoria Opera House, Burnley, Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Nov. 28, Jan. 9, 16, 23. HORNER, Burnley.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies

EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
Vacant,
Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, onward.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant,
July 18, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Jan. 16, 23, onward.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant,
March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, onward.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant,
July 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, Sept. 5, 12, 19, onward.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Vacant,
July 25, Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, onward.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
PRINCESS'S THEATRE, HOYLAND.
Vacant,
Sept. 19, 26, Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH (Late Albert).
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH (Late Albert).
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH (Late Albert).
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH (Late Albert).
Vacant,
Nov. 7th, onward.
Wanted, Big Attraction to open.
Arthur Carlton, having taken a Long Lease of the above Property, will open same in November, after considerable Alterations and complete Redecoration.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant,
July 18, 25, Sept. 5, 19, 26, Oct. 3, Dec. 12, onward.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant,
Aug. 15, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 14, Dec 12, onward.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
Vacant,
Aug 8, 15, 29, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant,
Aug. 1, 15, 22, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, Oct 3, 10.

All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON, Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

POOLE'S THEATRES, GLOUCESTER and SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, the Best Companies Only for the Theatre Royal, Gloucester, now One of the Prettiest, Cleanest, and smartest Theatres in the Empire. Electric Trams from all Parts. The Only Theatre in the City.
Opera House, Porth, the Largest and Most Successful in the District, now in the Full Tide of Success.
Opera House, Treherbert. Top of the Valley. Another fine Theatre, where everything before, behind, and outside is done well. Extensive building now going on directly opposite. The pits sunk, the coal found. Directly they start the Population doubles. Now good, then excellent.
Town Hall Theatre, Maesteg. Another coming Eldorado. More pits sunk, fine coal found. Hotels, business establishments, and streets rebuilt.
"The Christian" took at Maesteg, in three nights, in an off pay, £118, and in three nights at Treherbert, £130, and we mean to double these receipts. Only a few Autumn and Spring Dates left. Every inquiry solicited.
Theatre Royal, Pontypool, at present to Let on Share or Rental. Apply, for all Theatres,
C. W. POOLE, Wotton Lawn, Gloucester.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Queen's Theatre, Farnworth,
Aug. 29 (?), Oct. 10, 11, 12, Oct. 17, Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 26.
Pantomime,
Jan. 2 or 9.
Star Theatre, Swansea.
Aug. 29, Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 21, Spring.
Albert Theatre, Brighouse,
Aug. 15, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 19, Oct. 31, Nov. 28.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

NEW KURSAAL, ILFRACOMBE.
WANTED, July 11, 25, Aug. 15,
First-class Companies and Season Attractions,
Musical Comedy, Comedy, Dramatic.
The Kursaal Lighted by Electricity.
Tip-up Seats. Proscenium Opening, 22ft.
Orchestra, &c.
Wire or write,
THOMSON, Pelham House, Paignton.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, July 18, Sept. 26 (Three Nights), Oct. 3, and on.

Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General Manager.

GRAND THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 15, Sept. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov. 14, 28, Dec 5, 12.
Silence a courteous negative.
Apply, Mr C. F. WILLIAMS, Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE, WIGAN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for Aug. 15 (Vacant through Transfer)
Full particulars to H. J. WORSWICK, as above.

ROYALTY THEATRE, LLANELLY.
The Sensational Success of South Wales.
WANTED, Strong Attraction for August Bank Holiday. Reopening of Season.
Address JOHN TULLY,
Theatre Royal, Bristol.

MR F. W. PURCELL'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, July 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 29, Sept. 5, 19, Nov. 21. Address, F. W. PURCELL, Alexandra Theatre, London, N.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, First-class Companies for Aug. 22 and Dec. 12.
Address, Mr C. F. WILLIAMS, Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

THEATRE ROYAL, BATLEY.
WANTED, Company, Aug. 1.
See Provincial Theatre Page.

WHITEVALE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
The Only Amusement House in the East End of the City.
Electric Light Throughout. Main Thoroughfare.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Oct. 31 and Onwards, with Exceptions.
Address, GREEN, Whitevale Theatre, Glasgow.

COMPANIES WANTED

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
Managing-Director, Mr R. C. BUCHANAN.

THE FINEST TOUR IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.
A FINANCIAL AND ECONOMICAL SUCCESS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.

GLASGOW.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.
LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE.
KIRKCALDY, KILMARNOCK, GREENOCK } At present in course of Construction. { KING'S THEATRE. KING'S THEATRE. NEW THEATRE.

All communications re Dates to R. C. BUCHANAN,
General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Telegraphic address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRE.
WANTED, Big Attraction for July 25, Aug. 1,
New Gaiety Theatre, Leith, and Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.
Wire, R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS,
July 4, 25, Aug. 15, 29, Sept. 8, 22 (?), and on.
GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE,
Sept. 29, Oct. 24, and on.
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
Sept. 26 (?), Oct. 3, 17 (?).
GRAND, SWANSEA,
Aug. 22, Sept. 19.
GRAND THEATRE, BOSCOMBE,
Oct. 10 (?), 24.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW-CROSS.
Sept. 19, 26 (?), Oct. 10.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.
Wire, "Lutanist, London."

BOSCO THEATRE, NORTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, ARTHUR JEFFERSON.
Ninth Year of Personal Local Management.
WANTED, Companies, Companies.

Vacant June 5, 1905, various, onwards.

Contracts recently to hand:—"Eternal City," "Fatal Wedding," "Actor's Romance," "Are You a Mason?" "Christian," Miss Go-Won-Go Mohawk, "His Majesty's Guests," "New Barmaid," "Royal Divorce," "Chinese Honeymoon," Pantomime "Goody Two Shoes," "Golden Ladder," and Moody-Manners.
Touring Managers please note.—The Boro' is booked in conjunction with the Grand, Royal, Princess's, and Metropole, Glasgow; Royal, Blyth; and the various Theatres controlled by the Scotland's Provincial Theatres Directorship, by which and whom (in all cases) any other Theatre in North Shields is barred.

Address, Ayton House.

QUEEN'S OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
Proprietor and Manager, COATES F. PORTER.
Largest seating capacity (2,500),
and best Business Theatre in Cumberland.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Aug 15, 25 (Three Nights), and 29,
Sept. 5, 19, 26,
Oct. 17,
Nov. 14,
and on, with few exceptions.
Wires, "Bowler, Workington."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for
Aug. 15,
Aug. 22.
Also Dates in September, October, and December.
Musical Companies Preferred.
Good Pantomimes Required in January and February.
Address letters only,
THOMAS SWINTON.

NEW THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr J. BANNISTER HOWARD.
WANTED, Good Companies to send their Vacant Dates. Companies already booked include:—Moody Manners Opera Company, "Chinese Honeymoon," "Belle of New York," "San Toy," "La Poupée," Chas. Frohman's "Sherlock Holmes" Company, "Three Little Maids," "Les Cloches de Corneville," "Are You a Mason?" Edward Terry, Arthur Roberts, "A Country Girl," "Silver King," "Eternal City," "Florodora," "Darling of the Gods," &c.
Vacant Dates, Sept. 29, Three Nights; Oct. 6, Three Nights; Nov. 7, Three Nights; Nov. 21, Six Nights; Dec. 16, Three Nights, and plenty of Spring Dates.
J. BANNISTER HOWARD,
3, Bedford-street, Strand, London.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, Two Nights. Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple, N. Devon.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD, E.
July 18, Aug. 1.
WANTED, First-class Attractions
for the above Dates.
Apply, FRED FREDERICKS.

THEATRE ROYAL, RYDE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, J. BANNISTER HOWARD.
WANTED, Good Companies, for Season Dates. Bookings already include "Three Little Maids," "Belle of New York," "Message from Mars," "A Country Girl," "Florodora," "Saturday to Monday," "The Eternal City," "Cousin Kate," "Chinese Honeymoon," "La Poupée," "The Darling of the Gods." Vacant Dates, Aug. 8 (Three Nights). Aug. 15 (Two Nights). Sept. 8 (Three Nights) Sept 15 (Three Nights). Sept. 26 (Three Nights), Oct. 3 (Six Nights) also vacant Christmas, Easter, and Whitsun. J. BANNISTER HOWARD, 3, Bedford-st., Strand.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION and OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER MARE.
WANTED, Offers from First-class Successes, for Aug. 1, 2, 3, and Sept. 5, 6, 7. Vacant through "Lady Molly" and "Toreador" Fire. W. PAYNE, Manager.

WORKMEN'S HALL, MOUNTAIN ASH.
The Only Fully Licensed Hall in the Town. All Modern Improvements carried out in Stage and Dressing-room Accommodation, with a Splendid Electric Light and Gas Service. One of the Finest Halls in Wales.
WANTED, Known, the Committee of Management are open to accept Engagements of Good Theatrical and Variety Companies, on Share or Rental Terms. Satisfactory references must be given.
For terms and Vacancies,
Apply to Mr WILLIAM JONES, Secretary,
the Only Authorised Person to accept Engagements in connection with this Hall.

WANTED, Strong Play for Special Fortnight. Would not object to one unproduced.
Miss MAY, Simonside, South Shields.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity.
Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards, with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. CORTON

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Whitland.

WANTED, for Channel Islands, from July 4, for One or Two Weeks a Musical Combination or Attractive Entertainment. Complete in Itself. Two Hours Duration. Good Business Certain. Sharing terms. Wire, Box 8,029, care of "The Era" Office.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of July 18 and Aug 8 for this Powerful Attraction.
Wire, To-day, KELLY, Prince's Theatre, Bristol;
Next Week, Her Majesty's Opera House, Blackpool.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
Absolutely the Largest and most perfect Production of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Touring Great Britain.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug, 22, Nov. 14, Christmas. Now Booking '05.
C. HARRINGTON, Grand Theatre, Derby.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
and
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S

"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"

Including
the Wonderful Child Actress,

Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,

in her great creation,

JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,

as played by her
over 700 nights
in
London.

WANTED, July 11
(to precede Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield),

Aug 8
(to precede Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth),

Aug. 29,

Sept. 5, 12,

Oct. 10,

Nov. 14
(to follow Theatre Royal, Leeds).

Mr Kirk thanks Wm. Bailey, Esq., for Return Date at West London Theatre;
Charles Elphinstone, Esq., for Return Contract at Hanley;
E. A. Smith, Esq., for Return Contract for Marina Theatre, Lowestoft;
also M. Montgomery, for Contract for Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

Now Booking 1905.

Refer to any of the following Bookings and Rebookings:—

Standard, London;
West London,
Surrey;
Terriss, Rotherhithe;
Royal, Stratford;
Brixton,
Queen's, Manchester;
Osborne, Manchester;
Junction, Manchester;
Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Opera House, St. Helens;
Royal Court, Wigan;
Prince of Wales's, Southampton;
Prince's, Bradford;
Theatre Royal, Leeds;
Queen's, Leeds;
Palace, Newcastle;
Grand, Blackpool;
Metropole, Glasgow;
Victoria, Burnley;
Metropole, Birmingham;
Royal, Barnsley;
Prince's, Portsmouth
Prince's Theatre, Accrington;
Opera House, Wakefield;
Prince of Wales's, Grimsby;
Alexandra, Hull;
Alexandra, Sheffield.

General Manager,
G. CARLTON WALLACE,
Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
DOUGLAS BRUCE'S No. 1 COMPANY.
WANTED, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, and Dec. 5.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22,
Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 17, 24, and Dec. 5.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, 1905, for Important New Play.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

WANTED, Aug. 1, 8, 15, for "In A Woman's Grip."
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
By Wilson Barrett. From Hall Caine's Novel.
WANTED, Oct. 10, Nov. 7, 14, and Dec. 5.
The scenery was beautiful, and the accessories correct to the smallest detail.—Liverpool Courier.
Booking 1905
Third Year of Tour a confirmed success.
Alfred B. Cross as Pete is superb.
Victoria Theatre, Broughton, June 27.

"TROOPER HUNT'S WIDOW."
WANTED, Aug. 1, and on, with exceptions.
Also July 18, to follow Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.
Enormous success everywhere.
Enormous success everywhere.
Receipts increased Nightly, without one single exception.
Refer to Respective Managers.
Address, FRANK NELSON,
Trevor House, Trevor-street,
Llandudno.

"A MOTHER'S LOVE."
WANTED, July 18, to follow North Shields and precede Standard Theatre, London;
also Sept. 26 and Oct. 3 for
"A MOTHER'S LOVE" or "THE FOLLIES OF YOUTH."
Only Vacant Dates this Year,
July 18, Sept. 26, and Oct. 3.
FRED L. CONNINGHAMS,
this week, Theatre Royal, Darlington;
next week, Theatre Royal, Hull.

"THE SILVER CROSS."
WANTED, July 4, 11, 18, 25, for the Manager's Eye-opener. Always a success. Wire, MARSTON and BUCKSTONE, Prince's, Blackburn; write, P. O. W., Salford.

"A VISION OF VENUS."
WANTED, June 27, and Various Dates Onwards for above Musical Farcical Comedy. Special Troupe of Five Dancers. Under New Management. Printing in basket. Wire or Write, General Manager, FRANK MAPLES, Court Theatre, Warrington.

"A LIFE'S REVENGE."
WANTED, Big Theatres between Cardiff and Liverpool for July 11, 18, 25.
FRED C. SOMERFIELD, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

"SHADOWS OF A GREAT CITY."
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 4, 11, 18, and Aug 1.
To-day, HARRY FOXWELL, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield;
June 27, Theatre Royal, Aldershot.

WANTED, Theatres, "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," F. A. Scudamore's Popular Play, Miss Frances Delaval's Co., Eleventh Month of Tour, Aug. 22, Sept. 5, 26, Oct. 17, Dec. 26 Dalston Theatre, N.E.

MR LESLIE VYNER'S TOUR,
"SAVED FROM THE SEA."
Mr Leonard Robson and First-class Company.
WANTED, July 11 and 18, between Merthyr and Sheffield. Grand, Swansea.

"A TRIP TO BOSTON."
WANTED, Theatres, July 4 Onward, for the above High-class Musical Comedy, Performed by Good Vocalists, Sound Actors, and Music Hall Artists of repute. Wire, AMANDUS, Theatre Royal, Margate.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Sept. 26, Nov. 7.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 5.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1, Oct. 3, 10, Nov. 7.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."
WANTED, Important Theatres for Walter Melville's New Play,
Aug. 1, 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 10, 31.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct 24, Nov. 14 (?), and on. Christmas Vacant.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, for "Her Forbidden Marriage," Fredk. Melville's Latest Production, Aug. 15, Sept. 5 and 12, and on.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."
WANTED, Important Theatre in or near London, June 27,
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

MR SILVANUS DAUNCEY and MR CHARLES V. FRANCE'S COMPANY in
"WHITEWASHING JULIA."
WANTED, First-class Theatre for Aug. 1.
Address, Mr SILVANUS DAUNCEY, 22, Charing-cross, S.W.

MR ARTHUR BOURCHIER'S COMPANY,
in
Mr W. S. Gilbert's Successful Play
"THE FAIRY'S DILEMMA."
WANTED, First-class Theatres for Aug. 15, Oct. 3, and Nov. 14 (North or Midlands).
Address, Mr SILVANUS DAUNCEY, 22, Charing-cross, S.W.

WANTED, "The Private Secretary" or "Jane," Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10, and 31, Nov. 7, 14. Farewell Tour. Managers with above Dates kindly write, E. C. STAFFORD, Coronet Theatre, London, W.

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?"
WANTED, Good Theatres in July, between London and Newcastle; Aug. 15 (to follow Avenue Theatre, Sunderland) and 22 (Midlands or South), Sept. 19 (to follow Crystal Palace), onwards, with exceptions. Wire, C. R. STONE, To-day, G. T., Dublin; next week, Alex. T., London, N.

HENRY SWINERD'S COMPANY,
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, July 11, 25, and Sept. 5.
Address, J. W. CORDINER, Marina T., Lowestoft.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER"
"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Christmas, Jan. 2, 9, 30, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, Sept. 5, Oct 17, Nov. 21, Christmas, for "ZAZA." Address,
HALDANE CRICHTON, Empire Theatre, Southend-on-Sea.

"THE SCARLET WOMAN."
WANTED, July 4 (between Sunderland and Sheffield).
Wire, Miss SCOTT-WATSON, To-day, Theatre Royal, York;
To-morrow, Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, July 4, 11, 18, Aug. 8, 29.
FRED BULMER, Gaiety, Dundee.

"A LIFE AT STAKE."
WANTED, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 22, Sept. 12. Various later.
JEROLD HEATHER, Prince's, Blackburn.

"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Aug 22, Sept. 5, 12 (Midlands or Suburbs), Sept. 26 (North), Christmas Week, and Spring. New Plant of Printing. 200 Sheets without a Repeat. Twelve Lithos. Star Company, including Mr Fred Powell. Mr A. Liston, &c. Address, GEORGE DENHAM, 7, The Crescent, Barnes, S.W.

"FOR THE WOMAN HE LOVES."
Second Year of Successful Tour.
WANTED, July 4, 11, Aug. 1, and on, with exceptions.
Wire, STANLEY S. GORDON, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford;
next, Lyceum Theatre, Eccles.

"GLITTERING GLORIA."
WANTED, Dates as Follows, for this Grand Production:—July 21, 22, 23, to follow Harrogate. Aug. 15, 16, 17, to precede Llandudno; also Aug. 29, only Vacant Dates 1904. Wire, MANAGER, T., Worcester.

WANTED, July 25 and Aug. 1, for Miss Emma Litchfield's Company,
"A London Actress."
STUART CLEVELAND, 3, Lower Lune-street, Fleetwood.
P.S.—Autumn Tour starts July 4 at Broughton.

WANTED, July 25, Aug. 1, "Life's Story;" Sept. 12, 26, "Marriage of Vengeance;" Oct. 10, 17, "Hand in Hand." FRED BENTON, G., Walsall.

"THE WEB OF FATE" COMPANY.
WANTED, July 4, 11, 18, and Aug. 1.
Wire or write, T. R. NUGENT, Muncaster T., Bootle.

"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, Sept. 5 and 12 for this Stirring Drama. Address, EUGENE BERTRAM, 1, Gilmore-road, Lewisham, S.E.

"BIGAMY."
WANTED, Sept 12th and Few Autumn.
A No. 1 Production. FRED MOULE, T. R., Jarrow.

"THE LIFE THAT KILLS."
WANTED, Oct 17 and Dec. 26.
FRED MOULE, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, July 18
"The Conscript."
MITCHELL and BELTON, Palace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

GEORGE LYTTLETON'S
"AT WAR WITH THE WORLD" COMPANY.
WANTED, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, onwards.
Everything Reliable. Printing Always Ready.
GEO. LYTTLETON, T. R., North Shields; next, G. T., Burnley.

WANTED, Theatres, July 11, between Southampton (R.) and Cardiff (R.); Aug. 15, between Swansea and Pontypridd (R.); Sept 5, 12, between Aberdare (R.) and Rugby (R.). Herbert Fuller's Racing Play, "Fiends of London."
FULLER, Globe Theatre, Deal (Second Week).

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence," July 18, Aug. 1 (between Sheffield and Wolverhampton. C. CLIFFORD, P. T., Portsmouth.

WANTED, Good Theatre, July 4, for the Strong Attraction, "The Romany's Revenge." Wire or write, TRAVIS GREEN, this, Farnworth; next, Cradley Heath

WANTED, Feb 6, 13, 20, for First-class London Pantomime.
Theatres Capable of Holding
Big Money only.
Please address, J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

"THE CRIMSON CLUB."
WANTED, Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 10, and various on, for this phenomenally Successful Drama. Please refer W. Bailey, Esq., West London, or any Manager where above has visited.
GUS C. LIVESEY, To-day, Southampton; O. H., Treherbert.

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S Celebrated Drama
"ROGUES AND VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Aug. 1, 22, 29, Sept. 12, 19, and on, with exceptions. Absolutely a First-class Production guaranteed. Everything New and Bright.
HARRY ESDEN, Grand Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, for "A Faithful Friend,"
July 4, July 4, July 4,
between Middlesbrough and London.
July 4 July 4, July 4,
LEWIS GILBERT,
Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr BERT COOTE'S COMPANIES.
"THE FATAL WEDDING."
"THE FATAL WEDDING."
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

WANTED, First-class Theatres. A Few Autumn Dates only.

Aug. 15 (Suburban or South),

Aug. 29 (Midlands),

Sept. 26 (Midlands),

Oct. 3 (Suburban or South),

Oct. 24 (North),

Nov. 14 (South or West),

Nov 21 and 28 (Midlands),

Dec. 26 (South or Midlands).

Companies Complete.

All communications should be addressed to CECIL BARTH, General Manager, Princess's T., London, W.

Mr CECIL BARTH'S COMPANY in
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."

WANTED, First-class Theatres,

July 25 (Suburban or Midlands),

Oct. 10 (Midlands),

Dec. 26 (Midlands or North),

April 24, 1905 (Suburban).

Company Complete.

All communications, Princess's Theatre, London, W.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Dates for
"HONOUR THY FATHER."
Aug. 15, Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 3, 31.
"GREED OF GOLD."
Sept. 19, Oct. 10, 17, Nov. 14, 28.
MORTON POWELL,
Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

WANTED, First-class Theatre,
Aug. 1.
E. P. CLIFT,
110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Wires, "Vagancy, London."

"THE NEW CLOWN."

WANTED, First-class Theatre only,
Aug. 8.
Aug. 8.
Aug. 8.
HERBERT GRENVILLE, 10, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

BEAUDYN and LIVESEY'S COMPANIES.

WANTED, Good Theatres for the New Oriental Play, by G. A. De Gray,
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
All Beautiful New Scenery, by T. Holmes and T. P. Hall, Shakespeare, Liverpool. Everything Carried.
The Geisha Acrobatic Dancers. Aug 15, 22, Sept. 5, Oct. 3, 17, Nov. 7, 14. T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.

MR and MRS F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANIES.
"A FIGHT FOR LIFE."

WANTED, July 11 and 18 between Hull and Devonport. This week, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield; next, Grand, Nottingham. Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY, The Hollies, Calf Heath, near Wolverhampton.

MR WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
in the Established Financial and Artistic Success,
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Another Triumph scored at P.O.W. Theatre, Grimsby.
Refer J. H. Curry, Esq.
Finest Cast Touring, including Miss Dora Price as the Woman and Mr Frank Adair as the Marquis.

WANTED, July 18 (or near London), Aug. 22, and onwards, with exceptions.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR,
To-day, P.O.W.T., Grimsby; next, T. R., Chatham.

BERT WENTWORTH TOUR. "THAT WOMAN FROM FRANCE." Magnificent Scenery and Effects. Miss Marie De Roos as Camille Nichol. Supported by the finest cast of Artists in the Provinces.

WANTED, Aug. 8 (North), 15, 29, Sept. 5, 19 (precede Dundee), Oct. 10 (follow Glasgow), Nov. 5 (Midlands), Jan. 2 (follow Fleetwood), Feb. 20 (precede Leicester) No. 1 Towns only.
BERT WENTWORTH,
Rosedale, West Hartlepool.

"THE SEAL OF SILENCE."

WANTED, July 4, 11, 18, Aug 15, 22, 29, and a Few Good Autumn Dates. Refer R. Ernest Liston, Esq., T. R., Leeds; C. P. Cooke, Esq., G., Nottingham; E. B. Goulden, Esq., P.O.W., Salford.
The latest addition to the muscular drama is "The Seal of Silence," which has been diverting visitors to the Royal, Leeds, during the past week. In this there is a great fight between a man and a woman, in the course of which the combatants wreck a very luxurious apartment in vain efforts to kill each other.—Sunday Chronicle, May 29, 1904.
All communications, WYNN,
To-day, Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy;
Next Week, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL,"
by Henry Merriman.
An Entirely New and Original Intense Drama.
Big Success in each Town visited.
Few Vacant Autumn Dates.

WANTED, Sept. 19, Oct. 10, Various, Onwards. Address,
STANLEY HOPE, 82D, The Chase, Clapham-common.

MISS OSWALD'S "EAST LYNNE."

WANTED, July 11, on, including Aug 1, for this excellent Musical Version. Superb Company. Agent and unlimited Pictorials. Opened to a capital house, Monday. Refer Mr Hopcutt HERBERT BARRS, O. H., Middlesbrough. Letters, 10, Featherstone-street, Roker, Sunderland.

"THE LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."

WANTED, Theatres with Large Stages for this Dramatic Novelty, Sept. 12, on, with exceptions. Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, Sept. 19, on, with exceptions for "The Thieves of London." Excellent Scenery, Company, and Printing. Mr Gresham thanks Messrs Carlton and Duckworth, Messrs Coulson, F. Denman-Wood, Esq., for Contracts, "The Thieves of London." R. S. GRESHAM, T. R., Ilkeston.

"A WOMAN'S REVENGE."

WANTED, Good Theatres, Aug. 1, 8, 29, Oct. 3. Booked by Messrs Milton Bode, Robert Arthur, F. Laidler, Ed. Whitty, J. Hague, E. Dottridge, Cecil Paget, &c. HENRY L. OSMOND, Prince's, Bradford.

WANTED, Good Theatres, July 11 and 18.
"Price of Pleasure."
Wire, HILL and AYRTON, P. O. W. T., Grimsby.

"A HIDDEN CRIME."

WANTED, July 4, 11, 18, for Powerful American Melodrama. Fine Scenery, Pictorials, and Cast. Wire, HARRY LYONS, 25, Northampton-square, London, E.C.

WANTED, Theatres for "Her Fatal Past." Huge success this Week at Rotunda, Liverpool. Complimented and Rebooked by Mr Montgomery, jun. Nov. 7 and 21. South or Mid. Coms. T. E. WARD, T. R., Stockport.

WANTED, for "Partners in Crime," July 18, 25, Aug. 22, on.
Everything carried. Everything well done.
July 18, 25, Aug. 22.
LEWIS GILBERT,
Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

To Managers.

WANTED, Known, Advertiser, having a Powerful Domestic Drama, all New Scenery for same, and a Large Plant of Special Printing, will give a Bonus to anyone securing for him an early Date for Production at Good Theatre.
Address, first instance, Box 8,009, care of "The Era."

THEATRES WANTED

WANTED, July 4 and 11, for Geo. M Marriott and Miss Edith Finlay's Big Triple Bill Company, the Sensational Episode, "London After Dark;" Grand Song-Scena, "The Goldsmith's Wife;" The Popular Musical Comedy-Drama, "The Maid of the Alps." New Songs, Dances, &c. This, Theatre Royal, Aston; next, Theatre Royal, Smethwick.

WANTED, Good Theatre or Public Hall for First-class Variety Company for Week Aug. 15. Address, ARTHUR SAXON, Tower, Blackpool.

ARTISTES WANTED.

MILTON-RAY'S COMPANIES.

WANTED, Autumn Tour, 1904,
Musical Comedy, "A Hot Night,"
Tall Singing Comedian for Professor,
Must be good Actor and Vocalist;
Soubrette, Petite, must Sing, Dance, and have Specialities;
Character Actor for Captain Drake,
Strong and Robust.
Pantomimes,
Principal Boy for Boy Blue,
Principal Girl (petite) for Bo-Peep,
Principal Girl for Miss Muffitt,
Male and Female Chorus, &c.
Age, height, terms, photos., &c.,
ARTHUR MILTON, Royalty Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, for "Life's Sweetest Sins," Long Tour, commencing Aug. 1, Artists to Complete Cast, including First-class Heavy Man, Smart Comedian (Sing), Carpenter (Combine Baggage), Good Business Manager (to Understudy). Photos. must accompany all applications, with terms and refs. T. ARTHUR JONES, 26, Wightman-road, Finsbury-park, London.

GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.

WANTED, to Hear from Dramatic and Variety Artistes willing to assist, on Monday, July 4, at a Grand Complimentary Benefit for Mr Reginald F. Turner, late Lessee of above Theatre. Fares paid from and to London (late train to London after performance), or Artistes write, stating lowest inclusive terms, to E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, for "Honour Bright," to Complete Cast, Good Heavy Man; also Young Man, Tall, and Good Speaking Voice. Must be Good Writer, and able to take Parts. Experience necessary. Long Tour. Rehearse July 4. Write Immediately, stating Terms, to H. C. CLEMENTS, 131, Peckham-rye, London, S.E.

WANTED, Several Artistes for "No Escape" and "Money Makes" Willing to Play in Fit-ups if required preferred. COLEMAN DAVIES, Pavilion, Edinburgh. Horace Whitmee communicate.

WANTED, Artistes for Various Parts, Mr Charles Hartley's Répertoire Companies, to open immediately. FRANK WATERS, Crystal Palace Theatre, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Amateur Lady and Gentleman can be Received in First-class Company for Small Parts and Understudy. Refinement, Youth, and Intelligence essential. Moderate Premium Required. Salary from Commencement. This being a thoroughly genuine opportunity applicants will please give full particulars (in confidence) in first instance, when, if satisfactory, a personal interview will be arranged Box 8,002, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Vacancy Occurs for Several Ladies and Gentlemen to Walk On, Small Parts, Understudy. Four Weeks Stock, and, if Suitable, Tour to Follow. Rehearse Birmingham, Open Liverpool. Small Premium Required, Returned in Salary, 30s. per Week. BETTERIDGE, A. T., Birmingham; next, G. T., Walsall.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."

WANTED, First-class Soubrette for Part of French Maid in above,
and Acting-Manager to Understudy.
Photos., lowest terms, and references to
MARRIS and BICKFORD,
Londesborough Theatre, Scarborough.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."

WANTED, Smart Child Actress, must be over Fourteen and Look very Small;
also Good Juvenile Lady and Character Comedian,
Rehearse July 4th.
Photos., terms, &c., C. M. JULIAN, Royalty, Morecambe.

"THAT WOMAN FROM FRANCE."

WANTED, Gent. for Beaumont, Juvenile Lady, Good Responsible Gent. (to S.-M.), Chambermaid, and Comedian. Photos., Particulars, WENTWORTH, Rosedale, West Hartlepool.

"FALSE LIGHTS."

WANTED, Tall Leading Man, Heavy Man, Light Comedy, Character Actor for Jew, Acting-Manager, and Tall Baggage Man to speak few lines. Apply, photos. and lowest terms, FRED SINCLAIR, Metropole, Manchester.

WANTED, for Melodrama, Autumn Tour, a Recognised Juvenile Leading Man, not too Tall. Terms must be moderate. Apply, Denton's Agency.

WANTED, for Autumn, Character Old Man, Natural Laugh, capable of Heavy Business. Must be able to jump about in long fight. Particulars, E. D. NICHOLLS, T. R., West Stanley.

WANTED, for Autumn, Baritone (Juv.), also Principal Boy and Girl and Good Comedian. All must Play Banjo well. State full particulars as to experience, &c. Applicants must send photos. ROBERT FINCH-HATTON, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

For Various Autumn Tours.

WANTED, a Diminutive Comedian for Part of Eton Boy, Juvenile Leading Gentleman, Juvenile Leading Lady, and a Tall, Attractive Young Lady for Small Part and Understudy. Photographs essential. Age, height, references, and lowest terms, JAMES WILLARD, 21, Castelnau-mansions, Barnes.

WANTED, Actor-Vocalists for Probable Vacancies. Those engaged for Autumn and Winter need not apply STONE, Alexandra Theatre, N.

ROBERT PERRIS'S COMPANIES.

WANTED, Comedian (Tramp), with First-class Speciality; Character Com. (Jew), must be able to Sing Laughing Song; Chambermaid (Rough), with Speciality; Good Character Actor; Aristocratic Old Lady; Smart Child (Girl), must be Fourteen.
References and full particulars to
The Manor, South Beach, Pwllheli.

WANTED, Good Comedian, willing to Double, Grand Production of New Melodrama, Aug. 1, Tour to follow. Apply, enclosing photo., &c., to VAUGHAN, 13A, James-street, Westbourne-terrace, W. N.B.—State salary required, which must be very low.

WANTED, Comedian, also Carpenter and Baggage-man.
Address, with photos.,
F. BROOKE WARREN,
134, Leinster-road, Rathmines, Dublin.

WANTED, for "Shadows of a Great City," Comedian to Sing. Photo.
HARRY FOXWELL, Theatre Royal, Aldershot.

WANTED, an Actor, to take part in Sketches, Characters, Old Men, and Romantic. Must be steady and reliable. Seven Months' Tour. Good salary to suitable man.
Will Francis Hawley and Russell Hatton write?
Apply, by letter only, to
Box 973, care of Willings, 162, Piccadilly.

"HER ONE GREAT SIN."

WANTED, Responsible Man, also Carpenter, to Play Part well. Fullest particulars. Rehearse July 18, Stratford. J. LEICESTER JACKSON, West London, W. Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Tall Gent. with Baritone Voice, for Character Part. Robust, Dress Well. Long Tour. Particulars, P. P., 67, Oxford-rd., Ealing. Letters only.

WANTED, an Amateur Gentleman, to Play Small Part and Understudy in First-class Drama in Second Year of Tour. Box 8,020, "The Era" Office

WANTED, Two Gentlemen Amateurs or Beginners. Must be Tall, Good Appearance. Exceptional Opportunity. First-class Company. Tour starts Aug. 1st. London reply, Box 8,010, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Low Comedian to Join Hugo's Inimitable Comic Sketch Comedians.
Address, GERARD, Queen's Palace, Rhyl.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Smart Comedian, with Good and Refined Répertoire. Used to Sketches. State Age, and Salary for Long Engagement.
Harry Reynolds' Minstrels, Colwyn Bay, N. Wales.

WANTED, Good Light Baritone and Man to Produce and Play in Sketches. Al Fresco. Envelopes, LIELN, 5, Cuthill-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, Immediately, a Young and Pretty Soprano for The Yokels Concert Party, Large Répertoire essential. Photo and particulars to TOM J. MORTON and LESLIE GAZE,
Pier, Teignmouth, Devon.

WANTED, at Once, Really Good First Tenor, for Part Singing. Long Engagement. Lowest terms, B., 62, Pelham-street, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, £10 Offered by a Young Leading Lady for a First-class Autumn Engagement. Shakespearean or otherwise. RESOLUTE, 53, Harders-road, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Young Edinburgh Lady Violinist wishes to join High-class Concert Tour for Summer Months. Address, Box No. 8,012, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Good Mezzo and Soprano, Cultivated and Refined Style, Experienced, as Duettists, to Join Select Concert Party, Musical Sketch, or other High-class Entertainments. Halls not objected to. Good appearances. Address, Miss MERREDYTH-LEWIS, 6, Randolph-road, Maida-vale, W.

WANTED, by Brilliant and Highly Trained Solo Soprano, with good experience, Engagement, for Tour or otherwise. Notices and references from Dr. HAVELOCK, 6, Christ Church-terrace, Doncaster.

WANTED, by Percy Challenger, July 11 to 30, only Dates Vacant Humorous Songs, Sketches, &c. Claremont Pier, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Immediately, by Well-Known Society Entertainer, Brilliant Pianist. Photo., terms, and fullest particulars, SCOTT LESLIE, the Cecil, Harrogate.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, 100 Chorus Ladies, Experienced and Otherwise, for Pantomime, Guaranteed Engagements if Suitable; also Artistes in all Lines to send Vacant Dates. Ward's Agency, 422, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies for Pantomimes next Season. Photos. (in Costumes), terms, experience, references, to ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, Artists, Disengaged, for London Suburban Pantomime, to send Photos., Terms, and Particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime to send Photos., Terms, and Particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies Engaged in J. F. Elliston's Pantomimes last year to write in again for Next Year,
with full particulars.
Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Responsible Manager or Syndicate to Produce High-class Up-to-Date Pantomime, Christmas, 1904-5, at the Avenue Opera House, Sunderland. One of the Best Pantomime Towns in the Provinces. Productions for Past Fourteen Years have averaged Ten Weeks' Run.
Capitalists who can provide a Fully-equipped and Elaborate Production only asked to apply to
C. E. MACHIN, Avenue Opera House, Sunderland.

WANTED, Young Gentleman to be Taught Duties of Acting-Manager for High-class Theatre Tour. Premium of £30 to be Returned in Salary.
Address now, to Box 8,021,
"The Era" Office.

WANTED, an Experienced Shorthand Typist. One who is Acquainted with the Work of a Variety Agent's Office.
Apply,
4, Leicester-street, Leicester-square.

WANTED, Experienced Scenic Artist. Absolutely lowest terms and references.
Write, 8,016, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Immediate, Quick, Artistic Scenic Artist. State Terms, WALKER, Spa Theatre, Whitby.

WANTED, Electrician, thoroughly experienced, in Provincial Variety Theatre. To have charge of Entire Plant, including National Company Gas Engine. Highest possible references absolutely necessary. Apply, stating wages required and all particulars to Box 8,025, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a Good Stage Carpenter, Bench Hand. One who understands Ghost Illusions, and can Paint if Required. For Music Hall Sketch
Apply, SECRETARY, 49, Birfield-road, Clapham-road, S.W.

WANTED, Tall, Robust Baggage Man; one capable of playing small part.
JACK HADDON, Theatre Royal, St. Helens.

WANTED, a Thoroughly Competent and Experienced Bill-Inspector, with complete knowledge of London Suburbs. Apply, with names for reference, stating age, &c. Letters only, mark envelope,
"Bill-Inspector," to F. W. PURCELL,
Alexandra Theatre, London, N.

WANTED, Experienced Bill-Poster and Hall Keeper. Permanency. Apply, with two references, to HERR PARREZER, Market Hall, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, by a thoroughly Experienced Manager, with a small capital at immediate command, to take an interest in a Theatrical or Entertainment Enterprise showing really good prospects, in Great Britain or Abroad.
Write, Box 8,026, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Pearce Butler, Manager, Agent, and Ringmaster, Spectacle Producer, &c., Liberty for Four Weeks. Undeniable Appearance and Address. Hughes, of Cinématograph, communicate. Contract Waiting. Rusting at 11, Palace-road, Upper Norwood.

WANTED, Engagement, by Fred Wilson, Business Manager, Resident or Touring.
Open for Good Offers.
Address, 130, Gairbraid-street, Glasgow.
Refer, R. C. Buchanan.

WANTED, by Young, Experienced Business Manager, Interest in Good Attraction, where small Capital and Services bring fair return. Box 8,014, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Well-known Advance and Acting-Manager, now Advertising Agent, large Northern Theatre, desires Re-engagement in similar capacity. A1 references. Bonus given for Good Engagement. Box 8,007, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, W. Davies, Advance Agent, Assistant-Manager, Bill Inspector, or Ringmaster. Competent. Hippodrome, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement by Electrician Eight Years on Theatre Gas Engine Plants. Good references. 191, Ashew-road, Shepherd's-bush, London.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Electrician and Cinématograph Operator.
OPERATOR, care of JONATON, 62, St. Stephen's-st., Salford.

WANTED, Known, Fred Worthington, Master Carpenter, Bench Hand, Disengaged. Fifteen Years with Henry Dundas, Esq. Address, 12, Portland-road, Leamington Spa.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Engagement as Bill-Inspector, Advance Agent, or Bill-Poster. Thoroughly Experienced. Good references. Abstainer. Box 8,008, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Baggage, Wife Wardrobe and Utility Parts. Resident or Tour. Good refs. PORTER, 165, Kent-st., Grimsby. Wire or write

WANTED, by a Lady, Thoroughly Domesticated, Good Needlewoman, Musical, a Position of Useful Companion to a Professional Lady. Trustworthy; excellent refs. L. S., 13A, Lynn-street, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Marie St. Ives, late of Miss Fortescue's Company, open to make Dresses at Home or Wardrobe in London. 35, Grove-rd., Brixton.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Musical Director. Must be Good Arranger, Vocal and Instrumental. Also Competent to take Full Charge of Choir and Orchestra. Photo. and references, JOHN H. TOMKINSON, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Conductor (Violin), to combine Cornet; also Pianist,
for Crocker's Horses, for Monday, June 27.
Long Tour, with only Two Weeks' Vacation.
Wire, Theatre, Aberdare; Monday, Brynmawr.

WANTED, First-class Leader, also Repetiteur and First Cornet, for Tour.
Terms, references, CONDUCTOR, Drill Hall, Merthyr.

WANTED, Good Conductor, for "The Belle of New York," Autumn Tour.
J. BANNISTER HOWARD, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, London.

WANTED, Leader Solo Cornet, Second Cornet, Horn, Euphonium, Trombones, Bass, and Double Drums, for the New Tenting Circus, commencing July 4. Terms, Leader, £2; Others 30s.
Address, D. TAYLOR, care of De Frece,
12, Cecil-court, Charing-cross, London.

TUDOR'S CIRCUS, BLYTH, NORTHUMBERLAND.

WANTED, Violin (Leader), Pianist, Clarionet, Cornet, Euphonium, String Bass, and Double Drums to Open Aug. 1.
Address, Dainez Farm, Pitsea, Essex.

WANTED, First Violin, 'Cello, Bass, Flute, Clarionet, Cornet, Trombone, and Drums, for High-class Watering-place, commencing July 25. Age, refs, to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, care of P.O., Whitstable.

WANTED, Violinist, as Leader, to commence July 9th. Must be good Performer and thoroughly reliable. A. COLLINSON, Pier Orchestra, Cleethorpes, Lincs.

WANTED, First Violin, Morecambe, commence July 4, for Season. Dancing and Variety. Terms, PARKER, 39, Hampden-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Violin, Cornet, Double Bass, combine another if possible, July 11, Season.
POLLARD, Marina, Ramsgate.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM, FULBOURN, NEAR CAMBRIDGE.

WANTED, Male Attendant, First Cornet preferred. Apply, stating Age and Height, and enclosing Copies of Testimonials, to the SUPERINTENDENT, at the Asylum.

WANTED, Second Cornet or Tenor Horn, Situation, any Business. Address, CORNET, 80, Ormside-street, Old Kent-road, London, S.E.

Small Military Band, Saltburn-by-the-Sea.
Six Weeks, July 25 until Sept. 3.

WANTED, Solo Clarionet, Solo Cornet, Euphonium, Horn, E Flat Clarionet. Thoroughly Experienced. Apply, H. G. AMBRS, Newcastle-on-Tyne, with references.

WANTED, Euphonium for Sedgwick's Menagerie, to Join at once. SEDGWICK, Menagerie, Broxburn, Saturday; Linlithgow, Monday; Boness, Tuesday, Scotland.

WANTED, Second French Horn for July and August. Seaside. Lowest terms to BANDMASTER, 140, Lumb-lane, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, Flautist, for Twice Nightly, Variety, to open on July 11th, 1904. Apply, by letter, with references, &c., to
PERCY B. BROADHEAD, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Pianist (Expert), Young Lady. Must be Good Mandolinist. Send lowest terms, age, reference, and photo Railway fares paid and Stage Costume found. 38, Macdonald-st., Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, Pianist, Twelve Weeks, for Scotland, from Aug. 1.
PRINCE BENDON, 301, Cathcart-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Pianist, for First-class Travelling Show, to Play Combination Piano and Organ. Lowest terms, LAWRENCE, Humanites, Fair Ground, Halifax.

WANTED, Pianist (Good), used to Dramatic and Variety Bus. Open at once; also Two Good responsible Actors. Wire terms. ORTON, P. T., Carmarthen.

WANTED, Portable Player, Vocalists, Ladies or Gents. Instrumentalists preferred. Pitching, Town and Seaside. Shares.

WANTED, Side Drummer (Good) as an Attendant in a County Asylum. Salary commencing £34, increasing to £48, all found. Single Man. Apply, with testimonials as to character and abilities, W. GRAINGER, Co. Asylum, Stafford.

WANTED, for the Hippodrome, Manchester, Smart Tympanist, with own Tymps. and Effects, to open Monday, June 27, 1904; also First Violin to open July 4, 1904. Apply, with references, to PERCY B. BROADHEAD, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Double Drummer (Good) till end of September. Lowest terms, H. W. POINTER, Excelsior Town Band, Queen's Arms Hotel, Margate.

WANTED, by Double Drummer and Tympanist, Engagement. Experienced and Reliable. Good References. D., 7, Arthur-street, Chelsea, W.

WANTED, Several Good Musicians, to augment Military Band, for Seaside during Summer. Only those who live in London need apply to Arthur's Agency, 434, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Cornet Players, Horns, Trombones, Euphonium, Bass, and Drums (Amateur), to form Band of Thirty. Object, Charity. Small fee paid to efficient performers. Letters only. Address, HON. CAPTAIN, ex-Army Bandmaster, 126, Lambeth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Strings (Good) for Tour beginning July 7. Apply, stating lowest terms and references, Box 8,011, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Small Orchestra. Those who can do Turn preferred. Open Yarmouth Aug. 1. MANAGER, 53 Grosvenor-park-road, Walthamstow.

A. M. U. Musical Agency.

WANTED, Musicians anxious to secure the best terms before accepting Engagements in Scotland
to write to Mr J. Bartley,
9, Seamore-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, the A. M. U. Musical Agency, Proprietors of the Famous Imperial Bands, have Booked several important Engagements for the coming Season. Military and Orchestral Bands on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet, containing full particulars, to the Manager, C. JESSON, The Institute, 96, Longacre, W.C. Telephone, 9,827 Central.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS

WANTED, by Experienced Conductor (Violin), Engagement, Theatre or Variety. Compose, Arrange. Late Mus. Dir., Renad's "Swiss Express." H. NATION, 116, High-street, Collier's-wood, Merton, S.W.

WANTED, by Conductor, an Engagement. Experienced, best references, steady, abstainer. Box 8 000, care of "The Era" Office, London.

WANTED, Known, Musical Director (Pianist), at Liberty July 2, through change of management. Finishing Sixth Year at Queen's Theatre, Swindon. Excellent references. Bronze and Silver Medallist, L.A.M. Composer and Arranger. Offers invited.
Address, Mr JOHN J. GALE, Sandford-street, Swindon; or, Theatre.

WANTED, by Musical Director, or Leader, Disengaged for Two Weeks, from July 11th, Engagement, Tour or Permanent. W. MOORE, G.T., Southampton.

WANTED, by Experienced Conductor (or Leader), Engagement at Once. First-class Violinist and Soloist. Address, CONDUCTOR, 22, St. Oswald's-road, West Brompton, London, S.W.

WANTED, by Conductor, Engagement, July 25 to Sept. 15. Leader or First Violin.
W. S., care of EDWARDS Music Warehouse, Altrincham.

WANTED, by Leader, or First Violin, Engagement, any Bus. Thoroughly Experienced. Highest references.
E. SCARFE, 107, Richmond-road, Kingston-on-Thames.

WANTED, by Leader or First Violin, Engagement. Good references. F. AUGARDE, 26, Idmiston-road, Forest-lane, Stratford.

WANTED, by Conductor, First Violin, Second Violin, Viola, Bass, Cornet, Trombone, Clarionet, Engagement; together or separate. CONDUCTOR, O. H., St. Helens.

WANTED, by Leader (First-class), Good Engagement. Thoroughly Experienced. Disengaged June 27.
LEADER,
43, Princes'-road, Richmond, S.W.

WANTED, by Leader or First Violin, Engagement, at once, through closing. Any Business. Experienced. Apply, BACON, Leader, Romilly Hall, Barry, near Cardiff.

WANTED, by Violin, Engagement or Deputising. London preferred. Any Business,
E. SHERIDAN, 23, Laitwood-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, by Violin, combine Trombone, Engagement. Late De Jong's Orchestra. Excellent References SYKES, School Place, Hinksey, Oxford.

WANTED, by Violinist (late Conductor, F. S. Gilbert Opera Company), Engagement, Tour or Permanent. Address, Mr JAMES SWIFT, 49, East-st., Derby.

WANTED, by Solo Violinist (Gentleman), Engagement in Concert Party; commence end of July. VIOLINIST, 74, Abingdon-villas, Kensington, London.

WANTED, by Violin (First or Second), Engagement, could Combine Second E Flat Saxhorn. Any Business Steady young man. W. STONES, 16, Russell-street, Farnworth, Bolton, Lancs.

WANTED, by Violin, Conductor or Leader, Engagement. Any business.
Library of Standard Music. Good refs.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement. Good refs. W. NICHOLS,
19, Essex-street, James-street, Globe-road, London, E.

WANTED, by Violin and Bass, Engagement for Summer Months. CLARICE and BESSIE EARLE, Durham Lodge, St. Margaret's-on-Thames.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement. Season or Perm. Young, Steady, and Reliable. Experienced. Good refs. ALBERT NEWELL, Crimsworther., Hebden Bridge.

WANTED, by Violin or Viola, Engagement. Good References. Could Join at Once. MONTAGNE, 29, Russell-street, Moss-side, Manchester.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, Engagement. Good references. At Liberty through Closing. Permanency or Seaside. C. T. NUTTALL, 8, Lindby-st, Burnley.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement At Liberty until July 16. Would deputise Manchester District RHODES, 40, Well-ith-lane, Rochdale.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, through closing, Any business. Thoroughly good, experienced, and reliable. WILLIAMSON, Poole's Myrios, Romilly Hall, Barry.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement. Steady Player. Experienced. Good references. Address, F. SKYRM, 90, School-hill, Aberdeen, N.B.

WANTED, by Cornet (Solo), Violin, Engagement Shortly. Mr M. BLAZER (for the past Five Years at the Crystal Palace Band), 13, Anerley-grove, Upper Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Dennis Butler (late Principal Double Bass Player, Royal Court Opera House, Liverpool). Offers invited. Address, Italian Exhibition Military Band, Earl's-court, London.

WANTED, by String Bass (Four Strings), Engagement. Any Business Military and Orchestral Band references, T. WHENHAM, 59, Denmark-street, Bedford.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement, Summer or otherwise. Nineteen Years' experience. References. BASSOON, New Theatre, Oxford,

WANTED by Double Bass, Re-engagement or Deputising. Thoroughly experienced Good references LYND, 170, Drakefell-road, Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Deputising for a Few Weeks, through closing, any business. Address, BASSO, 564, Dobbie-loan, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Double Bass (Four-string), Seaside Engagement. Ten Years' Experience. Sober. G. TONKS, Nethercot, Gravelly-hill, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement. Good Experience. Any Business. Good references. Through closing. F. PAGE, Opera House, St. Helens.

WANTED, by Second Trombone, any business, just finished Military Training. Address, A. J. BRADELL, High-street, Cranleigh Guildford.

WANTED, Trombone (First-class), to Open July 4. Permanency.
Apply, W. CRABTREE, Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement. Well experienced. Both String and Military Bands. Apply, W. R. PENN, 72, Hazelwood-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, by Bass Trombone, Engagement through disappointment. Competent. Good references. G. BLISS, 150, Beaconsfield-road, Hastings.

WANTED, by 'Cellist and Violinist (Leader), Experienced, Immediate Situation. From the Royal Opera, Amsterdam. Good Solo Répertoire.
Address, BLAZER, 8, Station-parade, Harrogate.

WANTED, by 'Celloist, an Engagement in Theatre or Variety Hall Orchestra. Thoroughly experienced, excellent references. INKPEN, Palace of Varieties, Southampton.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement. Good references. Address, W. KNUDSEN,
33, Beatrice-street, Bootle, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Viola, Seaside Engagement for about Eight Weeks from July 18. Highest references. VIOLA, 11, St. Mary's-sq., Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, by Oboeist (Experienced), Engagement, any Business. Reliable. Seaside preferred. Particulars to C. D, 12, Marsh-lane, Southampton.

WANTED, by Solo Harpist, Maud Estlin Grundy, Age Sixteen, Sallé Erard, Alexandra P.; Aqm., Brighton. 18, Lawn-rd., Hampstead, London, N.W.

WANTED, by Harpist (Solo), Engagements Concerts, At Homes, &c. Brilliant Selections. Handsome Costumes. Miss ADA BRANDON, Writtle, Chelmsford.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Solo and Orchestral Harpist and Pianist, Summer Engagement. Any Bus. Reliable. Re's. SINCLAIR, 30, Empire-road, Sheffield.

WANTED. — Miss Florence Maye, L.R.A.M., Solo and Orchestral Harpist, Disengaged July. 8, Blomfield-street, W.

WANTED, by Flute or First Violin, Engagement.
Apply, FLUTE PLAYER, 21, Noel-street, Oxford-street, W.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Summer Engagement. Experienced any business. Piccolo Soloist. F. FLETCHER, 30, Maldon-street, Rochdale.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo (Experienced), good Summer Engagement. Piccolo Soloist, Orchestral or Military. Last Season with Mr Hiram Henton at Worthing. Good References. T. B. KNIGHT, 16, Kempsford-road, Kennington.

WANTED, by Pianiste, Engagement with Touring Company. Experienced Sight-Reader, for Dramatic, Variety, and Concert Work. Reliable. Terms, 30s. Madame LOWE, Bullace Trees, Triangle, Halifax, Yorks.

WANTED, by Good Variety Pianist and Reader, Engagement, Large or Small. Respectable. Last place nine years Particulars, Mr LORENZO LEWIS, 744, Oxford-road, Reading.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement, through Closing. Well experienced. Combine Second Violin. Good Arranger. 43, Anerley-vale, Anerley, S.E.

WANTED, Known, W. C. Starber, Pianist, thanks Managers for offers. Engaged as Musical Director, White Coons, Whitby. Good offers invited for Autumn.

WANTED, by Pianist (Lady) Engagement. Experienced in Orchestral, Dramatic, and Variety. Splendid Accompanist. PIANIST, 62, New Kent-road.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement, Any Business. Have Portable. Steady, Reliable. Good refs. Address, NEWTON ROBINSON, 1, Dagmar-rd., Windsor.

WANTED, by Pianist (Orchestral), Engagement. Good Sight-reader. Well recommended. London or Seaside. PIANO, 11, Cantlowes-rd., Camden-sq., N.W.

WANTED, by Pianist and Violinist, Joint Engagement in Al Fresco Troupe. Own Portable. Sight-readers, reliable, experienced. G.P.O, Abergele, N. Wales.

WANTED, by Double Drums (Miss F. Y. Robinson) and Effects
Experienced Orchestra and Variety Business.
131, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's-bush.

WANTED, by Double Drums and Effects, Engagement, Orchestra or Military. C. BALDWIN, 102, Albert-palace-mansions, Battersea-park.

WANTED, by Double Drums and Effects (combine Clarionet), July 3, through closing Steady and reliable. WILKES, Post-office, Cirencester Gloucestershire.

WANTED, Known, the Original Blue Austrian Band open to good Offers Highest testimonials. CONDUCTOR, 37, Walden-street, Stepney, London.

WANTED, by Bateson's Orchestra (a success Lakeside Pavilion, Windermere. Conductress, Miss Maude Trainer), Offers for Autumn. Apply, T. BATESON, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an Advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

To the Manager of 'The Era' Advertisement Dept.
"Re Advertisement
WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster
"Littlehampton."

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

HIPPODROME AND PLEASURE GARDENS, GUERNSEY.
Proprietor, E. SMITH, Esq.

WANTED, for the above, the Best of Acrobats, Gymnasts, Jugglers, Musical Acts, Good Vocalists, Troupes of Dogs—in fact, anything that can be worked on a 40ft. Stage.

State lowest terms
for Immediate and Future Dates,
and when appeared last in Guernsey.

TUDOR'S CIRCUS, BLYTH, NORTHUMBERLAND.

WANTED, for Re-opening, Aug. 1. Novelty of Every Description.
Riders with Own Horses, Grooms, Property Man, &c.
Artist New to Blyth Preferred.
Address, Dainez Farm, Pitsea, Essex.

WANTED, for New Tenting Circus, Commencing July 4, Male and Female Equestrians, Gymnasts, Clowns, Specialities, Bioscope, Stud Groom, Tentmaster, Grooms, and Tentmen Pleased to hear from a Big Act that has not been Tenting before.
Apply, D. TAYLOR, care of A. De Frece,
12, Cecil-court, Charing-cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, for the New Tenting Hippodrome, a Few Good Turns, to Commence July 4. Terms must be Low. Small Show, but Money Sure.
Good Pair of Knockabouts write.
Address, D. TAYLOR.
care of DE FRECE, 12, Cecil-court, Charing-cross, London.

WANTED, Riders, with Own Horses, Acrobats, Gymnasts, and Good Variety Turns, for Circus Ring. A week in each town. All to open July 11. Must state lowest terms in first letter.
R. SILVESTER, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, for India, Gentleman Rider, Gymnasts, Ground Acts, Clown, Horse Trainer, and Band of Six Musicians. JENKINS, Stockton-lane, York.

WANTED, for Galas, Bristol, Aug 1, 2, 3, and later, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Wire Walkers, &c. Wood, Caterer, Easton, Bristol.

WANTED, Aug. 1, 2 15, 19 and 20. Specialities and Aerial Shows in all Lines. Lithos. Memos. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Smart Contortionist, able to speak Lines and Play Monkey and Cat Those written before write. Rehearse Monday. DE ROY, 7, Nunhead-lane, S.E.

WANTED, at Once, Smart Young Fellow. Must be Good Hand-Balancer and Tumbler.
Write, with terms, height, and weight, in first letter, to
Box 8,017, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a Good Lion Tamer, black or white. Apply, Biddall's Menagerie Recreation Grounds, Gosport, Saturday and Monday. Fareham Fair to follow.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED.—Alice Fontainbleau, with her Beautiful Thoroughbred, Haute Ecole and Liberty Act; also her Highly Trained Troupe of Trick and Leaping Dogs, and Marvellous Globe Rolante Performance. Four Distinct Shows. Marquis of Granby Hotel, Lincoln.

WANTED, Known, Comical Walker, Talking Clown, with Good Entrées, Vacant, Circus, Halls, &c. Crocker's Horses Brynmawr, South Wales

WANTED, Known, Handy Andy (Frank Anderson), Tumbling, Knockabout, Talking Clown and Agouste, at Liberty. Perm., 41, Lavan-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Funny Little Paddy, Australian Clown, &c., finished Twenty-nine Weeks on Saturday, Hippodrome, Dewsbury. Open Monday, Hippodrome, Guernsey. Back to my former Triumphs. Address, Hippodrome, Guernsey.

WANTED, Known, Teddy Saul, All-round Clown; also Miss Violetta. Two Distinct Turns. Liberty July 4, Circuses, Galas, &c Hippo., Carlisle.

WANTED, Known, Bimbo, Talking Knockabout Clown and Agouste, with Trick and Comic Entrées, also High Stilt Performer. Good Attraction for Galas. Now at Liberty. BIMBO, Selly-park, Birmingham

WANTED, Known, Eleonora, Lady Gymnast, and the Beautiful Vanda, in her Great and Up-to-Date Juggling Act on the Revolving Globe; La Belle Tosca, Charming Wire Expert. Three Distinct Specialities. Great success York Gala and Keighley Park. For Dates and Terms address, 36, Bridge-street, Macclesfield.

WANTED, June 27, by Alec Aubrey, Unique Gymnast; also July 4, 11.
Wire, Palace, Derby; or, Agent, Sley.

WANTED, by the Great Zaros, Lady and Gentlemen Acrobats, Monday next and July 4, 11.
Wire, 47, Larkhall-rise, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Monday next, by Bros. Lloddge, Silver-chain Acrobats. Halls, Circuses, or Galas. Wire, Hippodrome, St. Helens Agent, Fioni.

WANTED, Known, Great Osmond, Acrobatic Table and Chair Marvel, big success, Theatre Royal, Rugby. Vacant July 11. Address, Theatre, Nuneaton.

WANTED, Known, Harland and Rollison, Comedy Musicians, success anywhere. Vacant Monday, 27th. Finish To-night, Tivoli, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Herr's Zanellas, the Herculean Marvels, every Feat Original. Physical Culture Exponents, Equilibrists, Acrobats, Great Speciality Act. This, Northenden Hippo. Open June 27 and July 4. Offers invited. 52, Libby-st., Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Almero, Aerial Norwegian Spar and Smart Wire Act. Third Return to Guernsey, and still a Favourite. Re-engaged for Season. Address all letters, Smith's Hippodrome, Guernsey.

WANTED, July 11, by Mons. Duro, the Unrivalled Staircase, Teeth, and Chair Equilibrist. July 4, King's Theatre, Gloucester. Two Distinct Turns P. A., 55 Portland-street Southport.

WANTED Known, Bertani, the Ladderite, introducing Music and Juggling, Vacant July 11, onwards. Address, Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Young Man, Shop Can Tumble, Knockabout, and Expert Boxer. Join Sketch or Drama. SAM LEO, 5, Ely-terrace, Mile-end-rd., E.

WANTED, Engagements for Airship Flights.
Balloon Ascents, One to Six Balloons;
Parachute Descents, by Ladies or Gentlemen
(from Gas Balloons or Hot-air Balloons);
Captive Balloons, ascending 1,000ft.
— Terms upon application,
SPENCER BROTHERS, Limited,
Aeronauts to the Crystal Palace, &c.,
45B, Aberdeen-park, Highbury, London, N.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

ABERDEEN and DUNDEE
PALACE VARIETY THEATRES.
Booked in Conjunction with the Livermore Tour.

WANTED, Known, to Artists. The above Theatres closed June 4,
Reopen July 18.
Silence in the meantime a respectful negative.
ERNEST SHELDON, Director.

Scotch Tour.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artistes, Tivoli, Glasgow;
Queen's, Glasgow;
Palace, Kilmarnock.
All can offer Twelve Weeks, W. F. Frame Tour.
Full List of Bookings, terms, &c,
Barney Armstrong,
Tivoli Theatre,
Glasgow.

GOOD TEMPLARS' HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
Instituted 1869.
Season, from Sept. 3, 1904, till March 25, 1905.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, to Send Vacant Dates and Lowest Terms. Three Halls. A Turn of Fifteen to Twenty Minutes in each. Conveyances provided between the Halls. All communications to WILLIAM BIGGAM, Musical Secretary, 126, Botten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Stars, Specialities, all Lines, July 11, on. Terms low. Town and Theatre small. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum, Stafford.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, Aug. 15 and 22. Yorkshire Will Lasses send address to FRED BOULTON, 138, Hamilton-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, for July 4, and onwards.
Address, MANAGER, Theatre, Pembroke Dock.

IRISH TOUR.
TIVOLI, DUBLIN;
PALACE, CORK;
ALHAMBRA, BELFAST.

WANTED, Artists, Stars Good Novelties, Serios, Comedians, Comedy Sketches, Acrobats, Jugglers, New and Novel Acts.
Will Sley, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

PALACE, ATTERCLIFFE, SHEFFIELD; PALACE DERBY; and HIPPODROME, GRIMSBY.

WANTED, for the Above Establishments Artistes in all Lines. Aug. 1 onwards. Star Comedians, Comediennes, Specialities, Novelties, and Big Drawing Turns, may communicate direct, or through their Agents. The Palace, Attercliffe (formerly Alhambra), now undergoing Extensive Alterations and Decoration at a cost of over £1,000, will Re-open Aug. 1. Artistes must state when last in Sheffield or Attercliffe, and those Holding Contracts for Sheffield cannot be Entertained until the Expiration of such Contracts, unless Specially arranged.
All communications, T. EDWARDES, Palace, Derby.

WANTED, Refined Artistes for Worthing, July 11: St Leonards, July 25 Tour to follow. Must be suitable; also for Sunday, Sleath and Aldin. Write, SEATON, Post-office, Fishguard.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines for Aug. 8th, 15th, and 22d.
Lowest terms to ARTHUR SAXON, Tower, Blackpool.

WANTED, Artistes, Single and Double Turns, Two Weeks, July 4, 18, 25, Aug. 22. Living Novelties and Prodigies can open at once.
CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxwork Exhibition, Dublin.

WANTED, Artistes, July 4, new to Porth, South Wales; Novelties with Lithos. Share or salary. S. DOLF, Theatre Royal, Gloucester.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes, all Lines, June 4, Onwards. State Lowest Terms, Bookings, &c, Edgar Stebbings, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines for Charity Gala, July 23, 1904.
Apply,
F. E. LUMB, Theatre Royal, Yeadon, Leeds.

WANTED, Artists for Gala near Leeds, Aug. 29 and 30. Lowest in first letter.
Address, CANDLER, 6, Oxford-terrace, Harrogate.

WANTED, Artistes, in all Lines, for Fêtes and Galas. Will Temple, Entertainment Contractor, 76, Upper Parliament-street, Nottingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

Dr. Walford Bodie's Royal Money Magnets.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, July 4, onwards, for Sunderland, Dundee, and Aberdeen. To suitable Turns a long, comfortable Engagement guaranteed. State when and where last in Towns named; also actual lowest Summer Combination terms Fares paid after joining. All letters address to Dr WALFORD BODIE, M.D., Sole Director and Proprietor, People's Palace, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists in Every Line, Large and Small, for
Stoll Tour.
Portsmouth,
Chatham,
Croydon,
London,
and
Port Arthur.
Papa Brown, Agent, Empire, Newport, Mon.
Send Bookings.

WANTED, Artistes. Anything who can Follow Marie Loftus, Elliotts and Savonas, Maggie Duggan, &c.—In fact, anything big, for Liverpool, Manchester, Bolton, Rochdale, St. Helens, Warrington, Ashton, Wigan, Leeds, York, Barrow, Stoke, Derby, Grimsby, Dudley, Northampton, Coventry, &c., New Brighton, Morecambe, Blackpool, &c. Artistes out June 27 and July 4 wire or write sharp. Jess Verno's Agency, 13, Seymour-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2,076 Royal. Travelling Rep., MARK HALDANE

WANTED, Artistes of Every Description for immediate Dates, and new to London. Those known to me send in Full List of Bookings and lowest terms. Can always book anything good. The bigger the better. Permane's Bears please write. P.S.—Artistes who require one of the best Date Books ever published for the Profession, Seven Years' Dates, in Morocco Leather, should forward Thirteen Stamps to Walter Bentley, 169, Stamford-street, London, S.E.

WANTED, Refined Artistes, for Grapho and Jackson's Mascots; also Specialities. Wire, lowest for Monday, GRAPHO, 2, Queen-st., Barnard Castle

HIPPODROME and CIRCUS VARIETIES, DEWSBURY.
General Manager, GEORGE WELDON.

WANTED, Artistes of every Description, for Aug. 15, Sept. 5, 12, and Future Dates; a Good Cinématograph Operator, with own Machine of best Make. The Operator must be thoroughly Experienced and Reliable. Sobriety indispensable. To Commence July 23. If suitable, Engagement will be for the Season.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines for July 4 and on. Terms must be low.
HUGH DEMPSEY, 42, Crowtree-road, Sunderland.

WANTED, for Monday, Al Fresco, Artists, Ventriloquist and Musical Act. W. BUCKLEY, 4, Mowbray-terrace, Bridlington.

WANTED, for America, Several Liliputian Artistes not over 4ft. high (must be perfect), either Musical or Acrobats, or Scratch Performers Engagement would be for Six Months or a Year. Good Salary, and Travelling Expenses from London to New York, and Fortnight's Salary in Advance on Signing of Contract.
Send full particulars to Kelson Trueman,
Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines for June 27, and onwards, Fred Durham's Agency. 'Phone, 2 477 Hop 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, S.W.

WANTED, Artistes, all Kinds. Call, Amusement Office, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-st. Call impossible, send terms, photos., circulars, programmes bills.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, from now on.
Apply, Mr SCOTT, Empire Music Hall Wrexham.

Day's Variety Agency.

WANTED, Artists to Note that the Day's Variety Agency, of Brixton, advertised in "The Era" on Saturday, June 18, 1904, is in no way Connected with the Firm of Effingham House, Arundel-street, W.C.

WANTED, Clients to Send Fresh Bookings. Seebolds and Bandon lost work through not sending address. Will Mackey write. Address, M'Askell and Company's Agency, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Artists to please notice Change of Address, J. C. Bloom, Agent for the M.H.A.R.A., Wheatsheaf Hotel, King Edward-street, Hull. First-class Smokes, Rooms. "The Era," &c., taken

WANTED, Artistes holding Engagements Alhambra, Belfast, to write in Fourteen Days before Opening. H. T. DOWNS, Manager.

WANTED, Artistes Engaged at Hippodrome, Blackpool, note that, commencing Monday next, June 27, Rehearsal will be at 12·0 o'clock.

WANTED, Known, Rehearsal 1 0 o'clock sharp for All Engaged Monday next, Grand Theatre, Doncaster. MARCUS ROYLE.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.

WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession.
Acts New in Dublin for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland.
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 69,144.

WANTED, Great Stars and Specialities for July 18, 25, Aug. 1, onwards. Nothing too big.
Address, W. C. HORNER, Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Aug. 1, onwards,
Big Stars and Novelties for the
Hippodromes, Bedford and Luton.
Nothing too big. Must be Clean and Refined.
Wanted, Good Animal Acts,
also First-class Continental Turns,
and Star Comedians and Comediennes.
Lowest terms, &c., to
the Sole Agent for the above,
Edward Cranston, Variety Agent,
6, Chandos-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and Particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Big Specialities and Novelties, for Fêtes, Galas, Seaside, &c., Aug. 1, On. State terms, Edgar Stebbings, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, a Few Big Comic Acts for Music Hall, near Liverpool, All July.

Lowest terms, lithos., &c.,
James Fioni's Agency,
The Laurels,
Derwent-road, Liverpool.
Telegrams, Fioni, Liverpool.
Telephone, 31, Old Swan.

WANTED, First-class Acts in All Lines for Immediate and Future Dates, also Side Shows for Seaside, Ladies' Orchestra, &c. Send full list of bookings, lowest terms, &c., to BARNARD and DEETRICH, Continental Hustlers, 7, Clayton-square, Liverpool

WANTED, Good Speciality Acts for Galas, July and August. State Vacant Dates and lowest terms, 53, Grosvenor-park-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Acts of all Kinds, Big and Small, July 4 and on. Lithos. and particulars to LEO FRITZ, Winter Gardens, Southport.

THE JOSEPH POOLE'S MYRIORAMAS.

WANTED, Varieties of Every Description. Must be Refined. Long Engagement to Suitable People J. WOLSELEY POOLE, Verona, Malmesbury.

WANTED, Variety Show at the Bedford Constitutional Fête, to be held at Oakley, Beds., on Thursday, July 7.
Write at once to
SECRETARY,
Conservative Club, Bedford.

WANTED, Lady Trick Cyclist, can do little Polo, open July (Scotland). Well-known Troupe. State Terms, Photo., to TUDOR, Middlesbrough.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

COLLINS' HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
COLLINS' HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.

Sole and Responsible Proprietor, Mr P. COLLINS.
Sole and Responsible Proprietor, Mr P. COLLINS.

The only Variety Theatre in the Potteries.

Packed Twice Nightly at 7 0 and 9·0
with Delighted Audiences,
the Elite of the District.
The Theme of Conversation everywhere.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Immediately,

The Biggest and Best of Everything.
The Biggest and Best are
Already Engaged.
Room for More.
Price no Object for Value.
British, Colonial, and Continental
Artistes of Every Description
Always Entertained.
State when Last Engaged at Hanley, Longton, or Stoke-on-Trent.

Read this!
Artistes in all Lines are especially reminded they can have Immediate and reasonably distant Dates. They are not asked to accept them in the next century, with the sole idea of excluding them from this district until then.

Monday, June 27, and on,
Mdme. Ada Colley, the Australian Prima Donna; T. C. Callaghan, Florrie St. Clair, Shavo, Jongleur Comique; the Four Rosaires; Texas Hattie, Wire Pedipulator, Animatograph, Brothers Edgar, &c.

Rehearsal Monday at 12 30.
Collins' Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent,
Twice Nightly,
7 0 and 9 0.
Twice Nightly,
7 0 and 9 0
The only Variety Theatre in the Potteries.

Sole and Responsible Proprietor, Mr P. COLLINS.
Sole and Responsible Proprietor, Mr P. COLLINS.

General Manager,
FRANK EGERTON,
to whom address all communications.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
MANCHESTER.
Messrs THOMAS BARRASFORD and WILL SLEY.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Star Turns and Novel Acts.
WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Star Turns for Seaside and Every Hall of Note in the Provinces for Immediate Dates.
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for Blackpool and Morecambe, Star Turns, Big Novelties, July, August, and September. Big Acts. Price no Object. Acrobats, Wire Acts, Trapeze, Sketches, Jugglers, Dog Shows, Comedy Acts, Musical Clowns, Bar Performers, Comedy Quartette, Bicycle Troupe, and Any New Novelty. Lithos., photos, price to Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Star Turns, Tops of Bill, for London and Provinces, Immediate Bookings, June 27, on. Fullest particulars, including Terms, Lithos., and Full List of Bookings. Can Offer Suitable Acts New to Australia, Twenty to Forty Weeks.
Day's Variety Agency,
Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.
Telephone, 6,915 Gerrard.
Telegraphic Address, "Terpsichore, London."
No connection with any other Firm.

HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.

WANTED, a Few Cheap Single and Double Turns, July 4 Also Complete Concert Parties for Pier Pavilion. A Palmist write. All letters to QUINTON GIBSON, Tivoli House, Scarborough.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Star Turns and Specialities for London and Provinces.
Full particulars, present booking, terms, to the old firm
Day's Variety Agency,
116, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.
Silence a polite negative
No Connection with any other Firm.
Solicitor, John Marshall, Esq., 21, Southampton-row, W.C.

WANTED, for Grand Music Hall, Bolton, Novelties of Every Description.
Address,
J. F. ELLISTON.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Outdoor Attractions and Sensational Acts, to Perform in the Pleasure Gardens of the Midlands Exhibition, Nottingham.
Send Open Dates, terms, and particulars to
CHAS. I. KIRALFY,
Exhibition, Trent Bridge, Nottingham.

WANTED, Best Possible Attractions July 11 and 18, North.

Silence a respectful negative.

G. and F. Peel, Granville-house, Arundel-street, W.C.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS, BATH.

WANTED, High-class Concert Parties, Entertainments Minstrels, Dioramas, &c., for vacant dates during forthcoming winter. Premises now being Entirely Redecorated and Equipped on Latest Lines. Address, EDWARD S. MICHEL, 10, London-street, Paddington, W. London.

WANTED, Immediately for Olympia and Arcadia, Scarborough, Good Singers, Dancers, and Variety Artists, Suitable for Pierrot Show.
Send terms and full particulars,
SECRETARY, Exhibition, Trent-bridge, Nottingham.

WANTED, a Young Lady (Brunette), Good Appearance, Good Instrumentalist, or Singer and Dancer, for First-class Illusions. Long Engagement to suitable person. Address, full particulars, wages, to Box 8,018, care of "The Era" Office.

West of Scotland Al Fresco Entertainments Co.
Dunoon, Ayr, Troon, Ardrossan, &c.

WANTED, First-class Comedians, Vocalists and Sketch Artistes. LEE and ARDEN, Stanley House, Dunoon.

WANTED, Smart Minstrel Comedian, Open July 11 for Season. Good Gagger, used to Sketches. State Salary. CHARLES DARE, Douglas Head, I.O.M.

WANTED, Comedians, Doubles, doing Singles, Good Sketches. Hall Small. Lowest. Open Monday. Wire, KENDALL, Empire, Winchester, Hants.

WANTED, to Complete High-class Al Fresco (Sole Permit), Humourist, à la Leno, Roby. Shares. WHITE, 30, Foundation-street, Ipswich.

WANTED, a Few Genuine Hypnotic Subjects; also a Good Cinématographist with Complete Apparatus, and large number of Japanese War Films; also Good Music Hall Combination or Sketch of One Hour's Duration, to open July 2 (South); also reliable Advance Agent. Write, stating lowest Summer terms, Box 8,028, "The Era" Office

WANTED, Cinématograph Operator, Twelve Weeks, for Scotland, from Aug. 1.
PRINCE BENDON, 301, Cathcart-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Cinématograph Operator, for Tour, at once. Wire terms DELL, Post-office, Saturday, Thomastown; Mon., Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH.

WANTED, High-class Variety Combinations, for Several Weeks, commencing Aug. 1.
Good Terms for Special Programme
(otherwise useless).
Smoking allowed.
Fully Licensed.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON,
Ayton House, North Shields.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Vaudeville Companies, to open June 27, the Concert Hall, Midlands Exhibition, Nottingham, and Olympia, Scarborough, on Sharing Terms.
Send full particulars to
CHAS. I. KIRALFY,
Exhibition, Trent Bridge, Nottingham.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.

WANTED, Good Variety Company, to Reopen the above, Aug. 1 (Bank Holiday); also Sept. 5 and Nov. 14.
Address,
Mrs JENNINGS, Theatre.

WANTED, Good Operator for Cinématograph Show, and to make himself useful.
Letters, PRUETTS, St. George's, Bristol.

WANTED, a Sound Electrician, who understands gas, used to Illusions, Ghosts, &c.; also work Bioscope, Magic Lantern, and be generally useful, for Music Hall Sketch.
Apply, SECRETARY, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham-road, S.W.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, Vacant for Immediate Dates, Tops of Bills, Novelties, and all kinds of Big Attractions.
Wire, "Bravissimo, London;"
Paris: H. B. MARINELLI, London.
'Ring up, 5,718, Central.

WANTED, Monday next, by Florrie Claribell, Tyrolean Songstress and Clever Dancer.
Wire to 36 Nursery street, Sheffield.

WANTED, June 27, July 4, 11, Baby Lloyd, Vocal Wonder. Hit of the Programme for Two Weeks, Grand, Doncaster. Also Nellie Vaun, Serio and Dancer. After Saturday, B, 158, Witton-road, Aston, Birmingham. Please wire for One or Both, G., Doncaster.

WANTED, Known Gracie Bard, the Little Lady with the voice you can hear and understand. Liberty Monday. Wire, 20, King-street, Burnley.

WANTED, Known, Miss Edie Endon, Refined Comedienne, Buck and Acrobatic Dancer, Theatre Royal, Northampton. Sole Agent, Jess Verno.

WANTED, Dates, from July 18; also Autumn and Winter Tour, any kind by Victor Ritter, Refined Instrumental, Patter, and Vocal Artist. Hippodrome, Guernsey, this week and next. Good Speciality for Al Fresco, Pier Pavilions, &c.

WANTED, Engagements by Frank Deva, Yokel and Irish Comedian and Mimic. Good Voice. Experienced Al Fresco. 25, Churton-road, Chester.

WANTED, Known, Cambo, Musical Monkey, also Ventriloquial Show (Two Acts), Liberty shortly. Offers invited. Pierrots, Gourock.

WANTED.—George Nixon, the Original Comic Dwarf. Still tremendous success James's Waxworks, Dublin Offers invited for September and on.

WANTED, Known, Richardson Taylor, the Novel Entertainer, Requires July 4.
Next, Pier, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, July 4, by Paul Wilson, Characters from Dickens.
Write or wire, Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, Known, Kingsley Musical Speciality, Disengaged Monday, and July 4. Wire, P., Belfast; after Saturday, 73, Saltoun-road, Brixton

WANTED, by Alec Aubrey, Astounding Gymnast, June 27, July 4, 11.
Wire, Palace, Derby; or, Agent Sley.

WANTED, July 4, Gillin, Ventriloquist, Re-engaged next week owing to great success.
Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, by Baritone, Engagement, Halls, or Pier Pavilions. Pupil of Mr. Andrew Black.
HUTCHINSON, 223, Abbey-road, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, by Oakdene, Ventriloquist, Humourist, Chapeau, Conjuror, Aug. 1 onwards. This week, Marine Pagoda, Bangor, Ireland; next, Pavilion, Whitehead.

WANTED, Known, Prof. Garland, Ventriloquist (Five Figures), Mons. Langara, Coin and Card Expert, retained another week. Vacant July 6. Wire, Waxworks, Belfast; next, Temple-row, Wrexham.

WANTED, by Leslie H. Murray, Magician and Card Manipulator, July 4, 11, and Aug 1.
Address, Palace, Tynemouth.

WANTED, July 11 and 18, Sardou's Illusionists, Marvellous Mystifiers Great Laughter Show. Hit of Every Programme; also Marie Rivers, Queen of Song. Monday next, Queen's T, Longton, Staffs.

WANTED, July 11, Aug 1, Sept. 12, by Kyoto, the Original Comedy Japanese; also May Geraldine, Comedienne. Empire, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Known, Ted Young and Ada Twibell at Liberty Monday next, also July 4.
Wire, 1, Peter-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Kardoc Free July 4, 25. Splendid Lithos. Also Marie Ellis, Comedienne and Dancer. One or Both. Wire. See Card.

WANTED, Monday Next, by Dave Wallace, Eccentric Comedian; Marie Tilley, Vocalist, Dancer. Hippodrome, Freshwater, I.O.W.

WANTED, Known, Pastor Brothers, Acrobatic Musical Comiques; Will and Tim, Eccentric Tumbling Tramps. Two Acts. First Vacancy, Sept. 12. This, Hippo., Sheerness; next, Hippo, St. Helens.

WANTED, by Engist and Orna, Musical Comedians, July 4, 11.
Address 17, Berwick-street, Manchester.

WANTED, by Two Dominos, Clown and Donkey (Comic), June 27, July 4.
Parthenon, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Reed and Willow, the Laughter Makers, Comedy Magicians, Speciality, "Tricking the Trickster," Vacant July 4 and 11. Monday, Barnard's, Woolwich.

WANTED, July 4, 11, by Cullen and Carthy and Cluley, the Funniest Act on the Road. Out through Disappointment. Wire E., South Shields

WANTED, Known, Cullen and Carthy and Little Cluley, England's greatest Comedy Act, at Liberty July 4 and 11 through Halls closing. Wire, E., South Shields.

WANTED, Known Managers requiring a Star Comedy Act wire, E., 8 Shields, to CULLEN and CARTHY, and CLULEY, the smallest Comedians in the world. Liberty July 4 and 11.

WANTED, Managers to Wire at Once if you are Stuck for a Star Comedy Act for July 4 and 11, to CULLEN and CARTHY, E., South Shields. Out through Closing.

WANTED, Managers to Know, they can have the Finest and Funniest Comedy Act Travelling, July 4 and 11, by wiring CULLEN and CARTHY, and Little CLULEY, E., South Shields.

WANTED, Known, Cullen and Carthy, and Little Cluley, out July 4 and 11, through closing of Halls. Managers wire. E., South Shields.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, that Eugene and Willie, Musical Acrobatic Grotesques, have July 11, 18, 25 Vacant through mistake.
Next week, Collins's, 8·55; Grand, Clapham, 9 55.
For particulars, our Agent; or, as above.

WANTED, Known, Owen and Moore, Comedy Musical Act, Vacant Monday, Wire, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Fêtes, Special Weeks, Al Fresco, by the Melvernes, Three Reliable Specialities, Living Marionettes, Great Box Trick, Ventriloquial Show. Elaborate appointments. Distance no consideration. Coms., 108, Debeauvoir-road, Dalston.

WANTED Monday next, also July 4, the Rushforths, Song illustrators; and King Leo, Ventriloquist. Two Acts. Wire quick, Hippo., Ashton.

WANTED, Known, the Cullane Trio, Top of Bill, Theatre Royal, Leigh. Thanks W. Sley, Esq., Twenty Weeks. No Vacancies this Year.

WANTED, by the Great Zaros, Lady and Gentlemen Acrobats, Monday next, July 4, 11. Wire, 47, Larkhall-rise, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, by the Great Marconis, June 27 and July 4, also Aug. 15. The most wonderful Electric Act in existence, including genuine Wireless Telegraphy. The Act that is a Draw and makes people talk. Universal opinion, a Splendid Act. Apparatus valued at over £700. Own Electricity Generator for 5,000 volts. Address, 11, Haven-street, Beswick, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Abadaroffs, Prehistoric Mountebanks, Monday next, C. Palace, N. Shields. Vacant July 4, and on, with exceptions. 95, Stretford-road, Manchester.

To Music Hall Managers.

The E. O. Brooks and Charles Calvert Agency present their Dramatic Sketch Company, in Gilbert Dayle's New One-Act Play, "THE CLOWN."

WANTED, Aug. 1 and onward, at London and Provincial Halls.
Come and see the Show at our trial week in London, July 18.
Strong Cast, including
Mr Charles Windermere and Miss Clare Manifield.
Wire or write,
E. OSWALD BROOKS, Theatre Royal, Plymouth,
Co-Manager of Brooks and Calvert Agency,
3, St. George's-circus, London, S.E. 'Phone, 1,654 Hop.

"OUR NEW SLAVEY."

WANTED, through Alteration of Date, Monday next, June 27, Six Nights, by the Green, Gordon, and Green Combination, "Our New Slavey." Everything Up-to-date. Two Sorts of D.-C. Posters. Jennie Green as Our New Slavey. Wire, TOM GREEN, 4, Whitehouse-villas, Clarendon-road, West Croydon.

WANTED, July 4 and 25 by Driscoll and Beattie's Comedy Sketch Company. Address, till Sunday, Gaiety, Birmingham. Next, T. R., Oldham.

WANTED, Few Early and Late Bookings. Salary or share. Re-engaged Blackpool, Morecambe, Southport, Skegness, &c. Mr Harry Liston and Miss Lord Lumley's "Merry Moments." Egyptian Hall, London.

WANTED, Pier Pavilions, &c, at Seaside Resorts during next Three Months, by the Premier Vaudeville Company, at moderate rental. Offers to Box 10, Dawson's, 121, Cannon-street, London, E.C.

WANTED.—Lorenzo, with his Up-to-Date Troupe of Dogs, is at Liberty.
Will join anyone respectable, or Circus.
12, Bulworth-street, Bootle, Liverpool.

WANTED, July 11, onwards, by Chard's Dog Circus.
Theatre Royal, Bedford Leigh.

WANTED, Known, Gilbert's Original Troupe of Dogs and Cats conclude returns at Middlesex and the Cambridge. Big success of Sensational High-diving and Football Dogs. Splendid Electric Fit-up. June 27, Provincial Tour, till Jan. 2, 1905.

WANTED, Known, Kitty Woodford's Canine Circus and Orchestra at Liberty Four Weeks commencing July 4. Only Vacant Dates. A most Novel and Attractive Turn. Totally different from other Dog Shows. An Act fit for any Hall in the Kingdom. Also suitable for Piers, Fêtes, Galas, &c. Splendid Lithos. Good Costumes and Properties.
Address, Romilly Hall, Barry, near Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, the Original Anglo-American Bicycle Polo Team, from the Alhambra, Crystal Palace, London, &c. Still the Premier Cycling Number. Palace Pier, Brighton (Return Engagement). Dates wanted from Aug. 28. Managers of Cycle and Motor Exhibitions write. Vacant for Panto. Agents, Bertera and Co.

WANTED, July 4, Tudor Brothers and Miss Lillian, Original New Cycle Act (Shooting into Tea-cup Track) and Cycle Polo Experts. Enormous successes, Bradford and Thorne Galas. TUDOR, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, for Dartigan's Act of "Looping the Loop" will go on any Music Hall Stage.
July 18 and Aug. 8, onwards.
For terms, &c., apply to Proprietor,
CHAS. LONSDALE, care of Post-office, Newcastle, Staffs.

WANTED, Known, Miss Minnie Johnson, Champion Expert Swimmer, Diver, and Tank Performer, great Success at London Halls, Nightly. This week, Middlesex; at Liberty August Bank Holiday, for Season, for Piers, &c. 95, Trafalgar-rd., Old Kent-rd, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Cinématograph Operator, thoroughly experienced, wants Engagement. Just completed Four Years' successful Show. Write, SANGSTER, Empire, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Dates for Bioscope, Comic Pictures, with or without Troupe of Dogs. Share or Salary. Stage or Side Show. LE CLAIR, Pier Pavilion, Rhyl.

WANTED, Dates for Bioscope (Flickerless), Country or Seaside. Latest Subjects. Also Diorama Effects. KING, 1, Northumberland-place, Westbourne-grove, Bayswater.

WANTED, Engagements for Up-to-Date Pictures. Biggest Show Going. Fifty Shows Running. WALTURDAW BIOSCOPE CO., Holborn, London.

WANTED, Bookings for Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscopes. Vacant July 11. Only the Latest Films used. Monday, Exhibition, Jersey. Films for Sale.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Tom Norman (Silver King), Showman's Auctioneer and Valuer, has for Sale, by Private Treaty, everything connected with the Business. N.B.—Always open to Purchase or Engage all kinds of Novelties, Curiosities, &c., alive or dead, if suitable for Exhibition.
Apply, Auction Office, Manor Farm, Dallington, Sussex.

WANTED, Known, that the next Meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union will be held at the Coffee Tavern, Halifax, on Tuesday next, June 28, at 2·30 p.m., when business of the greatest importance will be brought forward.
Signed, T. HURST, Secretary.

Showmen's Fire Insurance.

WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showmen's Property Insured against Fire, on Tour or otherwise, anywhere in the United Kingdom.
For particulars apply to
F. F. POPE, Abingdon-on-Thames.

WANTED, Manager, to Run a First-Class Roundabout. Competent to Manage a Staff of Men. Well up to Running Machinery, looking after Electric Light Plant.
Apply, with Testimonial from last Employer,
P. COLLINS, Limited,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, at once, First-class Side Shows and Novel Attractions, on Sharing Terms, for the Midlands Exhibition, Nottingham, and Olympia, Scarborough.
Send full particulars to CHAS. I. KIRALFY, Exhibition, Trent-bridge, Nottingham.

WANTED, for the Waxworks, 91, Regent-road, Great Yarmouth. Novelties of all kinds.
CLARENCE BARRON.

WANTED, Wanted, Novelties for July 4 and Onwards.
STEWART, Waxwork Exhibition, High-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, for the Wonderland, Portsmouth, all kinds of Novelties, Shares or Salary. Must have good window flash. Ap., NELLIE SUNDERLAND.

WANTED, to Open at Once, Best Position in Yarmouth. Good Living Novelty with Flash. Terms, Share or wage and com. Good business for suitable novelty. Week or longer; can run for a month. SHERMAN, 20, Regent-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, High-class Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions suitable for Waxworks Exhibition, to Open Monday, 27th, and Future Dates. Wire, Carter's Waxworks, 10, Castle-place, Belfast.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties with great Drawing Powers, for Venice, in Rhyl. Salary to MANAGER, Palace, Rhyl.

WANTED, at Once, Freaks and Novelties, for the best Shop in London. Share, Rent, or Salary. Will Prof. Mayse or Mr Burnette write in?
G. CARO, 128, Hoxton-street, Shoreditch.

WANTED, Sensational Side Shows. A First-class Illusion can Open at once.
ETUMCKE, Electric Theatre, Crystal Palace, Sydenham.

WANTED, Good Comedian for Auction Mart. Must know plenty of Songs, and not afraid of work. EDWARDS and PAGE, Ynysybwl, South Wales.

BAKER'S CIRCUS.

WANTED, a Good Doorsman, to make himself generally useful; also, Good Cornet Player. Those used to Fair Bus. preferred.
P. O., Mexborough, Yorks.

WANTED, Knockabout Parader for First-class Travelling Show. Address, with lowest terms, LAWRENCE, Fair Ground, Halifax.

WANTED, at Once, Lady or Gentleman Palmist; also Good Quick-Showing Novelties. Wire, SHARP, 11, St. Mary's Butts, Reading.

WANTED, Smart Lady Palmist, to Open at Once. Shares or Salary.
PICKARD, 74, King-street, Hammersmith, London, W.

WANTED, Scientific Lady Palmist, to Open at Once (on Salary Preferred).
State lowest terms for Long Engagement,
A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Bailey's Punch and Judy and Toby. Liberty August Bank Holiday, One Day. Address, Buxton, Derbyshire. Chairup.

WANTED, Known, Carl Harmon's Royal Punch and Judy and Marionettes, also Bioscope, open for Engagements. 101A, Penwith-rd, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, to Auctioneers, Young Man, Auctioneer, Wants Re-engagement with Travelling Firm, either Tent, Booth, or Shop. Not afraid of work. ARTHUR, Ivy Dene, Malden, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, Silvia Vigor, the Armless Queen, wishes to thank Mr Stuart for Eight Weeks' Engagement at London and Edinburgh. At Liberty July 4 for Three Weeks. Scotland preferred. Open Crough, Wonderland, Glasgow, July 25, for One Month. With best wishes to Mrs Hunter. Address, SILVIA VIGOR, Stuart's Waxworks, High-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Young Lady Desires Situation with Firm or Travelling Auctioneer, to Learn Business. Box 8,024, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Rifle-range Proprietors to Note,
Firework Cartridges.
Guns Repaired Quickly and Cheaply.
22s. B.B. Caps, Card Targets,
Glass Bottles and Globes,
Celluloid Balls for Water Fountains.
A Few Second-hand Winchester and Colt Repeaters.
Prompt Delivery. Moderate Prices.
BUCK and PATTERSON, Limited,
66, Union-street, London, S.E.

Auctioneers.

WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Second-hand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for particulars,
C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Hand-Sellers to Know that T. E. Simons, late Travelling Auctioneer, is the Cheapest Man for all Kinds of Swag Clocks, Bronzes, Field Glasses, Jewellery, &c. Second-hand Watches for Auctioneers. All Goers. Ready for Sale. Cheap Watches suitable for Working the Spot.
Send for List.
117, Houndsditch, London, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Electrical Specialities.
SIMPKIN, WILKINSON, and GIBSON,
66, Kirkstall-road, Leeds,
Manufacture Dynamos, Arc Lamps, Switchboards, &c., Specially for Showmen. Also stock Cable, Globes, Carbons, Incandescents, and Every Requisite.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that Leete's Colours and Varnishes are the Best and Cheapest in London. Vermillionettes, Permanent Reds, Carmines, Carriage and Copal Varnishes, Gold Leaf, Brushes, &c., and every Decorator's Requisite for Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Write for price list or call, Leete's Colour Works, 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen to know that I have Secured from the Lord Mayor of Liverpool the Sole Rights of Roundabouts, Shows, &c., on the Occasion of the Royal Visit of their Majesties the King and Queen Laying the Foundation-stone of the New Cathedral. The King will Visit Liverpool on Tuesday, July 19, but Special Arrangements have been made to Open on Saturday, July 16, on which occasion 275,000 Children will be Entertained at the Following Parks:—
Stanley Park,
Wavertree Park,
Newsham Park,
Wavertree Playground,
Sefton Park.
Enormous Attractions will be held in each Park, including the Crowning of the Queen of the Red Rose of Lancaster, the Crowning of the Queen of the White Rose of York, Maypole and other Dances, Fireworks, Sports, Polo Matches will be Played on 500 Ponies, and other Attractions too Numerous to mention. Three Greatest Days ever been known in Liverpool, in fact, a General Holiday. Opening at 10 0 a.m each morning.
Opening Days, Saturday, July 16,
Monday, July 18; and Tuesday, July 19.
Spaces to Let for Roundabouts, Shows, Shooting Saloons, Cokernut Sheets, Steam Swings, Steam Yachts, in fact, Everything Connected with a World's Fair.
Sole Lessee, JOHN COLLINS Fairground, Halifax, to whom all applications for spaces should be made immediately; or to A. BRANDON, Manager, the Palace, New Brighton.

WANTED, Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, Stallholders, and others to know that I have got ground to Let at Leeds Summer Fair, commencing July 8, Queen's-road, Manchester.
August Bank Holiday, Hilkirk-street, Beswick;
August Bank Holiday, Hyde, Denton;
and other places to follow.
See other Advert re Parks on the occasion of the Royal Visit to Liverpool.
All applications for Space to be made to
JOHN COLLINS,
20, Rufford-road, Fairfield, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces for Shows and Stalls, Freaks, Illusions, Switchback, Swings, &c. Ore Valley Monster Fête. August Bank Holiday. Grand position. SECRETARY, 107, Mount-pleasant, Hastings.

WANTED, to Let—Queen's Palace, Rhyl, Shops, Stalls, to Let for Palmist, Fancy Glass blowing, Electric Engraving. Apply, MANAGER.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS

ECCLES SUMMER CARNIVAL.

WANTED, Known, Holmes and Green will hold a Gigantic Summer Carnival on Mather's Field, adjoining the Theatre, Eccles. No question about it, the very Best Ground in the North. On the main road. Electric cars pass the ground every minute. Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, and Travellers generally will find this a bonanza. We have several Extra Special Places to follow. Applications for spaces must be made at once. First come first served. W. HOLMES, 92, Trafford-road, Salford; JOHN GREEN, Preston.

WANTED, for the Largest Free Exhibition in Kingdom, One Space to Let. Glass Embosser preferred. Waxworks, Mirrors, Games, &c. All Let. BARRON, Sea View Exhibition, Great Yarmouth.

LINCOLN AND DISTRICT INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION, Aug. 16 to Sept. 2.

WANTED, Known, Spaces to Let at above and other following ones.
Apply, WILLIAMS, Wheatsheaf Hotel, Broodgate, Lincoln

Lincolnshire Agricultural Show, at Grimsby, July 13, 14 and 15.

WANTED, to Let Spaces for Roundabouts, Coker Sheets, Stalls, &c.
Apply, W. H. JACKSON, Grimsby.

Seaforth Annual August Fair.

WANTED, Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, &c., to Know Spaces now to Let for the above Fair for Menageries, Circus, Shooting Saloons, Cokernut Sheets, Stalls, &c., commencing Friday, July 29, and on. Applications to H. WALLIS, Seaforth, near Liverpool.

Blackpool Sands.
South Shore Fair Ground.

WANTED, Known, a few Spaces yet remain to Let—Sir Hiram S. Maxim's Captive Flying Machines now being Erected on the Ground—for the Coming Season. A Space 150ft. by 150ft. in best position, suitable for Native Village or other Large Attraction. Also a Building 40ft. by 24ft. to Let. Suitable for Waxworks, Marionettes, Shows, &c.
Apply, MANAGER, 9, Windsor-avenue, Blackpool.

Roundabout Proprietors.

WANTED, to Visit Gala, near Whitchurch, Salop, on August Bank Holiday, 1904. Roundabouts, &c.
Particulars of H. A. ADNITT, Shrewsbury.

Fifth Annual Dover Trades Exhibition (under Distinguished Patronage), Oct. 12, 19. Three Saloonies running round Main Hall to Let, Two 70ft. long, One 34ft. long, to Let in one lot or divided. This Exhibition is under most Distinguished Patronage, and will be extensively advertised through East Kent.

WANTED, Known, the whole of the Floor Space is already Let, and this being the first occasion that outside Firms have been allowed to Exhibit, it is an exceptional opportunity for London Traders and Showmen to get an Introduction to the Dover District. Terms very reasonable. Apply, ROBERT FORSYTH, Band Stand, Claeton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, to all Travellers requiring Ground for the Principal Holidays in Devon for July and August, Lympstone Regatta, Exeter Regatta, Teignmouth New Ground, Babbicombe Regatta, Dawlish, Paignton, and Brixham Regattas, and Torquay, Totnes Races, and Newton Abbot Fair. All applications to be made to Messrs W. C. and S. HANCOCK, Ilfracombe; then, W. G., Plymouth.

WANTED, Known, that the Novelty Exhibition, Regent-road, opens Monday next. Two remaining Spaces to Let. SHERMAN, Great Yarmouth.

Llandudno Pier Company, Limited. Season, 1904.

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EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for W. C. Fields, Steve M'Carthy, Jessie Albini, James Stewart, Rosie Lloyd, Edwin Barwick, Guy Ryder, Marie Kendall, Wedburns, Trentanovi Sisters, Mark Melford and Co., Ethel Ra Leslie, Francis and Melli.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS. Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Leonard Gautier, E. J. Sheldon, Vi Holmes, Walter Groves and Co., Annie Reid, Wallace Selkirk and Co., Harry Leybourne, Wille Bros., Howard and St. Clair, Little Fred, Mdlle Lagreze.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD. Two Performances Nightly, at 6·50 and 9·0. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for The Boissetts, Dion Wade, Lulu Gould, Barrett & Knowles, Lillie Soutter, Hill and Whittaker, Les Durvals, May Milburn, La Berat, K. and K. Kaufmanns.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL. Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Bransby Williams, in "'87;" Mabel La Blanche, Lee and Kingston, Pueblo Brothers, Henry Taylor Trio, Jack Charman, Max Renard's Dogs, Geraldo, Wilhelmina Quartette, Barowsky Trio.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW. Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for R. G. Knowles, Jessie Burnett, Maud Ross, Starr and Leslie, Will Mitcham, New York Nippers, Flo D'Orville, Harry Freeman, J. W. Rickaby, Wm. Lee and Co., Frank Sylvo, Dinah Morris and Co.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. Resident Director, Mr R. THORNTON. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Ginnett's "Larks in the Lake," Alice Maple, Foreman and Fannon, Spry and Austin, Hamilton Hill, Nellie Wallace, W. H. Liddy, Oswald Sisters, Frank Seeley, Mr and Mrs Findon, Nellie Vanderbilt, Victoria Monks, Alexandra Dagmar.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH. Rehearsal, at 1·30 o'clock, for Wilkie Bard, Howards, Mason-Keller Company, Alexandra Edwin, Automatos, Four Elysians, Adonis Trio, Captain Slingsby, Beattie Renee, Nellie Stratton, Lil Hawthorne.

EMPIRE THEATRE, CARDIFF. Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for Karno's "Saturday to Monday," Will Evans, Arthur Reece, Sisters O'Meers, Prelle's Dogs, Earle and Earle, Chas. Lilburn, Amy Sullivan, Allis and Cassatti.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, ST. MARY-STREET, CARDIFF. Cinématograph Exhibitions, Ourio Halls, Roller Skating, Phonograph, Waxworks, Galatea, Magic Mass, Shooting Ranges.

EMPIRE THEATRE, NEWPORT. Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for Minnie Balmer, Belle Davis, Brown-Kelly Company, Phillippi Brothers, Seeley and West, Ada Cerito, Hart and Leo, the Leonards, Sisters Pine, E. W. Selman

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWANSEA. Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for George Lashwood, Ando Japs, Orvilkshank, Manning's Entertainers, Three Densmores, Glenroy Troupe, Billy Farrell, the Sakers, Yvette's Hippodrome, Chris Richards.

EMPIRE THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for Hackenschmidt, Diane De Fontenoy, J. W. Rowley, Gintaro, Geo. Gibbey, the Eight of Hearts, Ella Dean, Trio Jurgens, Bennett and Martell, Clemart.

NEW PALACE THEATRE, BORDESLEY. Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Sam Edwards and Co., Gracie Lawn, O'Malleys, Chas. Somers, Knick Knacks, Leonard Barry and Co. in "The Mouchers' Walk," Pat Carey, De Breans, Hettie Chattell.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N. Curtain rises Nightly at 6·50 o'clock. Artistes please note. Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Kelly and Gillette, Conway and Leland, May Henderson, Cliff Ryland, Tally-Ho Trio, Jimson's Animals, Carlotta Levey, Eight Hiawathas, the Herald Comedy Four, James Kurry, Helen Charles.

EMPIRE, NEW-CROSS, LONDON, S.E. Curtain rises Nightly at 6·40 o'clock. Artistes please note. Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Edouin and Edwards, Frank and Jen Latona, Bros. Leslie, Brown, Le Clerq, and Co., Booker and Narbis, Three Missouris, Emmy's Dogs, the Langdons, the Smythsons, Alix Lukos.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD, LONDON, E. Curtain rises Nightly at 6·45 o'clock. Artistes please note. Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Cinquevalli, Charles Morritt, George Formby, Three Sisters Sprightly, Marguerite and Hanley, the Phydoras, Bioscope, the Lyons Trio, the Hulines, George Newburn.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:—

EMPIRE PALACE, HACKNEY. Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL. Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Geo. Robey, Griffiths Bros., Lucy Clarke, Ethel Haydon, Damm Bros., Rousby's "In Paris," Werner-Amoros Troupe, Les Voces, Mark Anthony, Tiny Arnold.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE, SHEPHERD'S-BUSH. Managing-Director, OSWALD STOLL. Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Karno's "Dandy Thieves," Bros. Poluski, the Tribune Trio, the Stavordale Quintette, Martine and Son, Chas. Austin, Sisters Govell, Kyoto, May Geraldine.

PALACE THEATRE, LEICESTER. Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL. Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for Little Tich, Vasco, Burns and Evans, Slade Murray, Lew Wells, Bioscope, Alexandre and Bertie, Georgina Leonard, Frank Lynne, Chas. F. Best.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN. Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Tom Hearn, Flo Challis, New Macs, Fred Zola, Scottish Meisters, Dorrells, Maud Mortimer, Dan Thomas, Maningos.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST. Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Minnie Cunningham, Leggetta, Northern Troupe, Orpheus, Norman-Leonard Trio, Sisters Lunelle, Lawrence Barclay, Ray Wallace.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS. Proprietor, Mr R. THORNTON. Rehearsal at 2·0 o'clock for Dan Crawley, Lilian Bishop, Ross and Grayson, Katie Butler, Norman French, Cullen and Carthy, American Bioscope, Wilson Hallett, American Comedy Four.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and specimens of Pictorials for Leicester, Cardiff, Swansea, Newport, Nottingham, Holloway, Stratford, New-cross, Hackney, and Shepherd's-bush must be sent to Mr OSWALD STOLL, Empire, Cardiff; and for the other Theatres to Mr FRANK ALLEN, the London Hippodrome, London, W.C., Two Weeks before Opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the Stage-Manager of each Theatre One Week previous to Opening, and Assignments for same must be produced at Rehearsal.

Artists will clearly understand that their Business must be Free from all Vulgarity.

N.B.—Silence in every case a Polite Negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Telegraphic address, "Twigsome, London." National Telephone, 5,526 Gerrard.

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MANCHESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES, Limited. All Artistes Engaged will kindly note that the Entertainment will, in all probability, be changed to Two Houses Nightly, due notice of which will be given.

CALL for Monday, June 27, 1904:—Mark Sheridan, Sisters Dacre, Rosie Archer, Five Foys, Collins and Rice, Connie Milton, Palace Pictures, Charles Wilson, Charlene and Charlene, Ernestine Trio, Bert Brantford, Lelia Roze.

O'CONNOR and BRADY'S No. 1 VAUDEVILLE COMPANY. CALL.—Monday, June 27th, Rehearsal, 1·0 o'clock, QUEEN'S THEATRE, LONGTON:—Gertie Gitana, the M'Kays, Animated Pictures, the Dunlops, Marie Riviers, Will Saunders, Gus Balsiger, Lillian Sivado, Mysterious Kay, Henri and Mdlle. Sardou, O'Connor and Brady.

M. CHESTER and CO.'S COMPANY. CALL, Monday, June 27, Rehearsal at 1·0 o'clock, THEATRE ROYAL, LEIGH. Geo. Lockhart's Performing Elephants, Alice Hamilton, Cliffe Dover, the Brewsters, Mons. Austin, the Jays, Fox, Lieut. Chard's Dog Circus. HENRY KEMBLE, Manager.

M. CHESTER AND CO.'S COMPANY. CALL, Monday, June 27, Rehearsal 1·0 o'clock. PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, NUNEATON. Charles Coborn, Bessie Hemming, Bonnetti, Beatrice Kendall, B. Leslie, Geo. P Lester, V. Leslie, Alice Munroe, Zampah Brothers, Geo. Osmond, The Carcassi Duo. HENRY KEMBLE, Manager.

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SPECIAL NOTICE. TIVOLI and QUEEN'S THEATRES, GLASGOW, having reverted back to the One-House System, all Artistes holding Contracts must work both, One Turn each Theatre. We provide Brougham, and move all Luggage. Both Theatres Closed. Reopen Early in August. Communications to be addressed, BARNEY ARMSTRONG, Tivoli Theatre, Glasgow.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

ARTISTES (AND THEIR AGENTS) HOLDING OR SEEKING ENGAGEMENTS AT

THE OXFORD,

OXFORD-STREET, W. Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock. Vesta Tilley, Yukio Tani, Clark and Hamilton, Vesta Victoria, Ernest Shand, Dorothy L. Clark, Tom Leamore, Abdullah Arabs, Dutch Daly, Harvey Boys, Jessica Grace, Joe O'Gorman, Maggie Walsh, Barnard's Marionettes, Alf Gibson, Will Dalton, Geo. Mozart, Will Poluski, Williams and Brown. Manager, ALBERT GILMER.

THE TIVOLI,

STRAND, W.C. Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock. Marie Lloyd, Albert Le Fre, Vesta Tilley, May Yohe, T. E. Dunville, Ernest Shand, Henry Lee, Joe Elvin and Co., Tom Leamore, Valazi, Lillie Langtry, Vesta Victoria, Terry and Lambert, Athas and Collins, George Mozart, G. H. Elliott, Bessie Featherstone.

THE CANTERBURY,

WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E. Rehearsals on Monday, at 11·0 o'clock. Harry Pleon and J. Collinson's Co., in their Successful Production, "The Club Raid;" Harry Tate, Phil Ray, Dorothy Clark, Imperial Quartette, The Mackweys, Leo Dryden, The Yelleroms, Harvey Boys, Ernest Shand, Sable Fern, Billy Hobbs, Peterman's Song-Sheet, Albert and Edmunds, Dora Lyric. Manager, FRED MILLER.

PARAGON,

MILE-END-ROAD, E. Artistes are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 3·0 o'clock. Tom Costello as Mad Willie, Karno's "Jail Birds;" Clark and Hamilton, Jessie Preston, Billy Hobbs, Tom Leamore, the Jees, Scarecrow, Zarmo, W. Stanley, Dorothy Clark, the Lannons, Rinaldo Trio, Kate Carney, R. W. Bentley, Ryan and Hall. The Management begs to thank the Artistes who kindly volunteered their services for the Nineteenth Anniversary on Thursday, the 23d inst. Manager, CHARLES BERCHAM.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE.

LONDON-ROAD, S.E. Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock. Marie Elsie, the Yelleroms, Ryder Slone, Mueller and Coyne, the M'Connell Trio, Cassie Walmer, the Korries, Olive Trio, Tom Brantford, W. H. Perrette and Co. Manager, FRANK WEEKS.

EUSTON.

EUSTON-ROAD, N.W. Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock. Marie Lloyd, Joe Elvin and Co., "The Hansom Cabby," Lieut. Travis, Walter Stockwell, the Eugene Family, Lilian Doreen, the Sivronis, Lady Mansel, Dot Hardy. Manager, FRED M'AVOY

THE EMPRESS,

BRIXTON-ROAD, S.W. Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock. Tom Costello, Joe O'Gorman, T. E. Dunville, Geo. Brooks, Elsa Joel, Cassie Walmer, Imperial Quintette, Childie Stuart, Regan and Ryan, Austin Rudd, Sable Fern, Lizzie Daniels, Johnny Holland and Co., Eight Lancashire Lads. Manager, NELSON FRANCIS.

THE ROYAL,

HOLBORN. Two Houses Nightly. Rehearsals on Mondays, at 1·0 o'clock. Carrie Lawrie's Juveniles, the Four Herberts, Professor Alex, the Strolling Players, the Vezzeys, Two Bostons, Professor Thornbury, Florence, the Great Kenna (Tank Show). Manager, H. KETTERMAN.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE,

UPPER-STREET, ISLINGTON, N. Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock. "Spot," the Enchanting Coon; Albert and Edmunds' Troupe, "The First Miss Banbury," Ben Albert, Park's Eton Boys, Amy Clevere, Eight Lancashire Lads, Kitty Wager, Wal Robbins, Mezzetti and Mora, Ada Victor. Manager, W. SPEARMAN.

DUCHESS PALACE,

HIGH-ROAD, BALHAM. Rehearsals on Monday at 1·30 o'clock. The Brothers Horne Boxing Sketch, Harry Champion, G. H. Elliott, Ethel Loftus, Sam Mayo, The Three Bennetts, Lily Langtry, Eileen Douglass, Ara, Zebra, and Vora, Pictures. Manager, CLIFFORD KING.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE,

WALTHAMSTOW. Band Rehearsal, which all Artistes must attend, on Mondays, at 3·0 o'clock. Fred Karno's Co., in "Jail Birds;" Tom Stuart, The Five Delevines, Sid May, The Hamiltons, Florence Esdaile, Walter Stanley, Hettie Lee. Telephone, 40, Walthamstow. Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY.

are particularly requested to read their Contracts carefully, especially the Clause as to barring, which will be strictly enforced. Any Alteration thereof can only be effected by Special Agreement in writing with the Managing-Director. For Engagements at the Royal, Holborn; Duchess Palace, Balham; Islington Empire, address, Mr WALTER GIBBONS, Tottenham-court-road, W. Telephone, 6,825 Gerrard. For Engagements at the other Halls, address, Mr G. ADNEY PAYNE, Managing-Director, Oxford, Limited, 1, Tottenham-court-road, W. Office Hours, 10·0 to 4·0. Telephone No. 2,035, Gerrard.

THE METROPOLITAN,

EDGWARE-ROAD, W. Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock. Prince's Lions, R. A. Roberts, T. E. Dunville, Edgar Granville, Alexis Bassian, Georgina Leonard, Fred and Lillie Harrison, Chas. Stevens, Ben Albert, My Fancy, Lily Morris, Frank Coyne, Chas. Chard, Kitty Neville, Flo Raynor, Annie Casey, Williams and Brown, Mayvilles, Rezene and Robini. Manager, J. W. EDGAR.

THE CHELSEA PALACE,

KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W. Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock. Harry Tate, Peggy Pryde, Austin Rudd, Strolling Players, La Tostia, Moxon Family, Sisters Leon, Ben Nevis, Dora Lyric, and the Lomaxes, in a Laughable Pantomime. Manager, EDWARD SWANBOROUGH.

For Engagements at the Metropolitan or Chelsea, address the Managing-Director, Mr HENRI GROS, at the Metropolitan, 267, Edgware-road, W. For times, address the Manager of each Hall, to whom also all Billing Matter must be sent Two Weeks in Advance.

THOMAS BARRASFORD TOUR.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 27, 1904.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW. Paulton and Dooley, Edie Anderson, the Brooklands, Brothers Llandoff, Clarke's Nippers, Sisters Andersen, Ed. H. Lucas, Harry Conlin, Pictures, Creo Brothers.

PAVILION THEATRE, GLASGOW. Donaldson Brothers and Ardel, Nora Emerald, Mdlle. Alladina, Mons. De Henau, Lizzette Troupe, Paul Vandy, Joe Archer, H. La Martine, Elsie Rubina, Pictures, Miss Fanny Wentworth.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM. Mons. Segommer, J. A. Cassels, Mons. Vincent, Charkassen Troupe, Bert Byrne, Dunedin Troupe, Musical Avolos, Corty Brothers, Harry Taft, Downes and Langford, Mdlle. Florizell, Pictures, the Delbosqs.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW. "Three of a Kind," Lall Cliff, A. Gill, Mdlle. Aga, Marnello Marnitz, Great Scott, Lily Flexmore, Nelly Vonare, Pictures, Howard and Harris.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. Geo. Bonhair, Kitty Marion, Reed and Glenny, Brothers Huxter, Prevost and Prevost, J. L. Shine, Mudge and Morton, Dolly, Maude, and Agnes, Pictures, Manhattans.

HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL. Seven Picchianis, Charles Hera, the Violas, Shawlene, Morcaschani, Twin Andersons, Queen and Le Brunn, Fredrica, Pictures, Trevally Harley.

TIVOLI, LEEDS. Six Brothers Luck, "Hotel Grand;" Clarice Netta, Goldini Trio, Hetty King, Bob Hutt, Brothers Lang, Emma Don and Co., Brothers Redmond, George Bendon, Belrose and De Velin, Pictures, the Meers.

GRAND, MANCHESTER. Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Millie Harris, Bock Pylades, Bros. Lavelle, Sadie Laverne, the Sevilles, Ailsa Douglas, Smith and Johnson, Eric Graham, Pictures, Vandyke.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BRISTOL. Luppu Trio, Jack Pleasants, Penstones, Brothers Harrison, La and Do, Mdlle. Alethea, Francois Rothig, Bertha Winder, Pictures, Wallno's Comedy Act.

REGENT, SALFORD. Schicklay's Bears, Mary M. Glenn, Meier and Mora, Three Prestons, Morton Trio, Burke and M'Evoy, Neil Kenyon, Pictures, Harry Allister.

HIPPODROME, ST. HELENS. Mdlle. Zarema, Roma's Piccaninnies, Lukushima Troupe, Pastor Troupe, Pastor Bros., Will and Tim, Sam Shipley, Beatie Worth, Frank Cass, Pictures, Martin Conway.

LYRIC, LIVERPOOL. Queenie Leighton, Tom Williams, Bertani, Tom O'Neil, Jack Heath, Mezzettis, Daisy Silcott, Pictures, Weiland, Five Whiteleys.

HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON. Three Seldoms, Morny Cash, Thos. E. Finglas, Celina Bobe, Passmore Brothers, Conn and Conrad, Will English, Charles Vincent, James De Voye, Harry Coates, Pictures, Matweef-Hugostons.

BRITANNIA, HOXTON, N. Geo. Leyton, Mars and Mac, Sisters Reveni, Jerry, Joey, and Jimmy, Marie Brian and Fred Laurence, St. John and Company, F. O'Connor, Marie Gibson, Will Farrell, Pictures, Peckham Fat Boy.

ALHAMBRA, HULL. Three Laurels, Harry Barker, Musical Silvo, Kioto, A. G. Spry, Sibb and Sibb, Jack and Evelyn, Pictures, Walton and Lester.

ALHAMBRA, PARIS. Marion Winchester, Claire Beasey, Lowell and Lowell, Mdlle. Martha, Albertin Mellon, Anna Thibaud, Lucia and Viata, Les Frères Pascoli, Les Four Cliftons, Sam Elton, Florence and Lillian, Bioscope, Ergotti and King Luis.

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ARIZONAS, FOUR, Acrobatic Tumblers, Contortionist, and Staircase Hand-Balancing. Salford Hippodrome, Manchester.

ASHLEY, BROTHERS, as usual, Palace, Derby. 27, Hippodrome, Grimsby. Fortune and Granville and G. Barclay.

ATLAS and the Beautiful MISS VULCANA, World's Greatest Athletes. Just Returned from Australia. Free July 4. 102, Ashley-road, Bristol.

ATOM, WILLIE, Small Comedian, 4ft. 4in Not deformed in any way. Sing and Dance. Comedy Boy Parts a Speciality. 26, St. George's-road, Brighton.

ATTILLA, BROTHERS, Artistic Physical Strength. Vacant July 4, 11. Next, Palace, Sunderland

AUBYN, ALF, London Season, Star, Berm-on-Sea. What a Hit—"Bill Bailey ain't a-coming home."

AVRIGNYS, Great Jap Juggling Number. Most Versatile Act before the Public.

BALSIGER, June 27, Queen's Theatre, Longton; 4 and 11, Westminster and Royal, Liverpool. July 25, Central Pier, Morecambe.

BANDON, SID, Enormous success in Town. Hippodrome, Norwich. Returns to Town August.

BARCLAY, GEORGE, and CO., Variety Agents. Telephone, 84, Streatham. 221, Brixton-hill, London, S.W.

BARD, GRACIE, The One and Only, Juvenile Coon and Speciality Artist and Dancer. Vacant Mon. Wire, 20, King-street, Burnley. See Wanteds.

BAROUX and BION, Eccentric Acrobats. June 27, Barnard's, Chatham.

BARRETT and KNOWLES, Comedians, Prince's T., Preston. Monday, Empire, Bradford. Vacant for Panto. Agents, Tom Shaw and Co.

BARTHOLOMEW, SISTERS (VIOLET and DAISY), the Ideal Pair. Enormous success, Lyceum, Eccles.

BARTLETT, MISS ROSIE, E., Wolverhampton. Next, Mid. and Cambridge. Good Songs by Authors of merit Required at once. Others save stamps.

BAWN'S AGENCY, 10, Victoria-parade, Balham-hill, London, S.W. 'Phone, 178, Balham. Telegrams, "Orderless, London."

BEANLAND, CHARLES, A Natural Comedian. Summer Gardens, Bridlington.

BEATRICE, SISTERS, Duettists and Dancers Monday next, Empire, Dover; to follow, Sandgate. Vacant July 11. Offers Invited. F. Durham.

BEES, THE TWO (HARRY and FLORA BLAKE), "Hiawatha" Scena. Great Success. June 27. Holiday in the Channel Islands.

BEKKER, HENRI, Comedy Conjuror, assisted by Mdlle. MAIE, usual success this week, Hippodrome, Salford; next, Empire, Wolverhampton.

BELFORD and MARS (FRANK and ETHEL) Vocal Comedy Duo. June 27, Theatre Royal, Gloucester.

BELLA LA PETITE, the Yankee Millionaire's Daughter. Huge Success Nightly, Bodie's Royal Money Magnets, Palace, Bristol.

BELROSE and DE VELIN, Speciality Duettists, Monday, Tivoli, Leeds.

BENET, HARRY, Alexandra Gardens, Penzance. Alexandra Gardens, Penzance.

BENT, HARRY, Mimic, Topping the Bill Grand Theatre, Doncaster. Fully booked. Also CARLOTTA LUNN. 14, Paternoster-row, City, London.

BENTLEY, WALTER, Variety Agent, 169, Stamford-street, London, S.E.

BERNARD, GEO., the Self-made Man—"paradoxically speaking." Carelessness should be counted a crime. Monday, City Varieties, Leeds, Return.

BEST, MR. CHARLES F., as M'Bunker, "The Mountebank." Moss and Stoll Tour, the Palace, Leicester.

BIRTENO'S Electrical Fairy Grotto. Latest Creation, "Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter," by Mdlle. Lumiere. Monday, Empire, Burnley.

BLACK and WHITE, Speciality Artistes. Required, First-class Coon Songs. 1, Willows-place, Swansea.

BLANCHE and DIACOFF, Original Cycle Act. This and next, Royal Albert, Canning-town. Fully Booked. Sailing September s.s. Ocela.

BLOUNT, ARTHUR BLOUNT, a Successful Comic Vocalist. Few Vacant Dates. 51, Dorothy-road, S.W.

BLYTHE, MARIE, concludes a Successful Tour of Four Months. Add., 16, Herbert-road, Brixton. Agents, S. M. Hyman, Limited.

BODIE, ALBERT EDWARD WALFORD. Address, Bohemia House, Bodie's-buildings, Macduff, N.B.

BODIE, DR. WALFORD. with own Company. People's Palace, Bristol, Third Week.

BONANZAS, THE THREE Original, Triple Bars, Chair Pyramidists, and Hand to Hand Balancers. Two Turns. 127, Linaker-street, Southport.

BON BONS, THE FIVE, HARRY BON BON'S Comedy Five. Big hit, Tivoli, Dublin. Monday next, Argyle, Birkenhead.

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME. Different from all others. June 27, Standard and Granville.

BOSANQUET, EDMUND, in his Illuminated Excerpts. Can please any class of audience.—Vide Press. Success, Palace, Rhyl.

BOSTOCK, N. C., and NELLIE ELLIENE, the Greatest Favourites ever Seen in the North. New Songs. Queen's Varieties, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

BOULTONS, THE, and MDLLE. BARTENELLI, working Galas. Address, 138, Hamilton-road, Liverpool.

BOYLE, MARCUS, My Bonny Boy. Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

BRADLEY and TRUMAN. Regards to Marcus Boyle. Red Lion Hotel, Costock, Notts.

BRENTON, SISTERS, Refined Duettists and Speciality Artists, Palace, N. Shields. June 27, Grand, Halifax. At Liberty July 4 and 11.

BRETT, HARRY, Comedian New Britannia Pier Pavilion, Great Yarmouth. At Liberty, July 4.

BREWSTERS, Vocalists and Speciality Dancers, Lance and Sword Experts. Theatre Royal, Leigh.

BRITISH QUARTETTE (JOHN BULL, SANDY, PAT, and TAFFY), Speciality Vocalists. June 27, Gaiety, Chatham.

BROADFOOTE, MARGUERITE, Address, Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne.

BROMLEY and FONTEIN, Operatic Humourists. A most artistic Act.

BROOKLANDS, THE (ETHEL and BELLA), Dainty Comediennes and Dancers. T., Manchester. Return Barrasford Tour June 27, P., Glasgow.

BURG, HAUD, and WISE, "Ye Brown Cow Inn." Touring, South America.

BURGATILES, FOUR, Musical Pantomimists. London Nightly.

BURNELLS, Alhambra, Leicester-square, Fifth Week, Palace, Croydon.

BURTON, GEORGE, Manager, Palace Pier, Douglas. "People who do their best to-day have the way open before them to do better to-morrow."

BUSH, MISS SADIE (late Bush and Bushell), Ballad and Descriptive Vocalist, Liberty June 27, onwards. 66, Walkley-street, Walkley, Sheffield.

CAINE, ANDIE, Comedian, London Pavilion. Andie Caine's Pierrots open July 4, Filey.

CAMERON, GREAT, Kerchief King, thanks J. Worswick, Esq., for returns at increase. June 27, Opera House, York.

CANDLER and NASH'S Punch and Judy, Best of its Kind. Liberty for Galas, &c. Permanent address, 6, Oxford-terrace, Harrogate.

CARL and CARR, Refined Comedians and Dancers. Usual Success with Fred Carlton's White Coons. Vacant for Panto. Pavilion, Mablethorpe, Lincs.

CARLTON, HENRY, the Popular Comedian, supported by his Renowned Comedy Team. No Vacancies this Year. Alhambra, Sandgate.

CARMENCITA, Comedienne and Acrobatic Dancer, at Liberty Monday next and July 4. Wire, 8, Brisbane-road, Smethwick, Birmingham.

CARR and ROSE (FRED and ADA), the Vocal Comedy Couple, "The Cockney Yanks." 27th, Pavilion, Leicester. Address above.

CARY, FRED, London Pavilion. "I didn't know what I could give," Lawrence and Gifford. "Tiddy-fol-ol," Castling and Collins.

CECIL, TOM, Comedian, having Finished Scotch Concert Season, is now in London. Letters, 58, Mayes-road, Wood-green; or, Agents.

CENTURY AGENCY. Address all communications en route, Amandus and Co., June 27, Theatre Royal, Margate.

CHARD'S DOG CIRCUS. Theatre Royal, Bedford Leigh. Free July 11th.

CHARMAN, MASTER JACK, the Sweet-Voiced Boy Vocalist. June 27, Empire Palace, Hull. Geo. Barclay and Foster and Granville.

CHARNLEY, SISTERS big success, Rosherville Gardens, Gravesend. Monday, Return, The London. Address, 105, Blackfriars-rd., S.E.

CHINKO, Provincial Tour. Communications, 44, Pentney-road, Balham, S.W.

CHIRGWIN, Next Week, Collins's and Royal.

CHOICE, VIOLET, Comedienne and Dancer. Monday next, Q, Poplar. Thanks to Harry Phillips, Esq., for three Years' Contracts, Grand, &c.

CHUMP and CHANT, in Song, Dance, and Story. Liberty June 27, July 4. Liverpool to follow. Wire, 87, Wollaton-st, Nottingham.

CLARENCE and BELL, Big Success, Hippodrome, Manchester. June 27, Metropole Theatre, Openshaw, Manchester.

CLARIBELL, FLORRIE, the Five Foot of Versatility. Permanent address, 36, Nursery-street, Sheffield.

CLARKE'S NIPPERS finish To-night Hippodrome, Glasgow. Next week, Palace, Glasgow.

CLEOPATRA, the Serpent Enchantress now on her Second Grand Tour around South Africa.

CLYDES, THE. Those clever instrumentalists the Clydes scored a great success at the Camberwell Palace last week.—Referee, June 5, 1904.

CLYO and ROCHELLE. Still they come. Palace, Camberwell; Hippodrome, Wigan; Hippo. Norwich, Two more weeks, Scotch Concerts. &c.

COATES, ALICE, Comedienne. "Come home, Bill Baily; I want you all to myself," by Chas. Collins. This, Portsmouth. Agents, Pacey and Reeves.

COLLINS, FRED, the Pawky Scotch Comedian. Park Palace, Liverpool. Specially Re-engaged for next Week, Padd. Palace, where please address.

COLLINS, MISS LOTTIE (Mrs James W. Tate), All coms., to 18, Albermarle-mansions, Holloway, N.

CONDOS, THREE. Japanese Foot Equilibrists; COMA, Expert Juggler, success, A Belfast. Monday, Tivoli, Dublin. Engaged again